

1901

Scrapbook; 1901

First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls

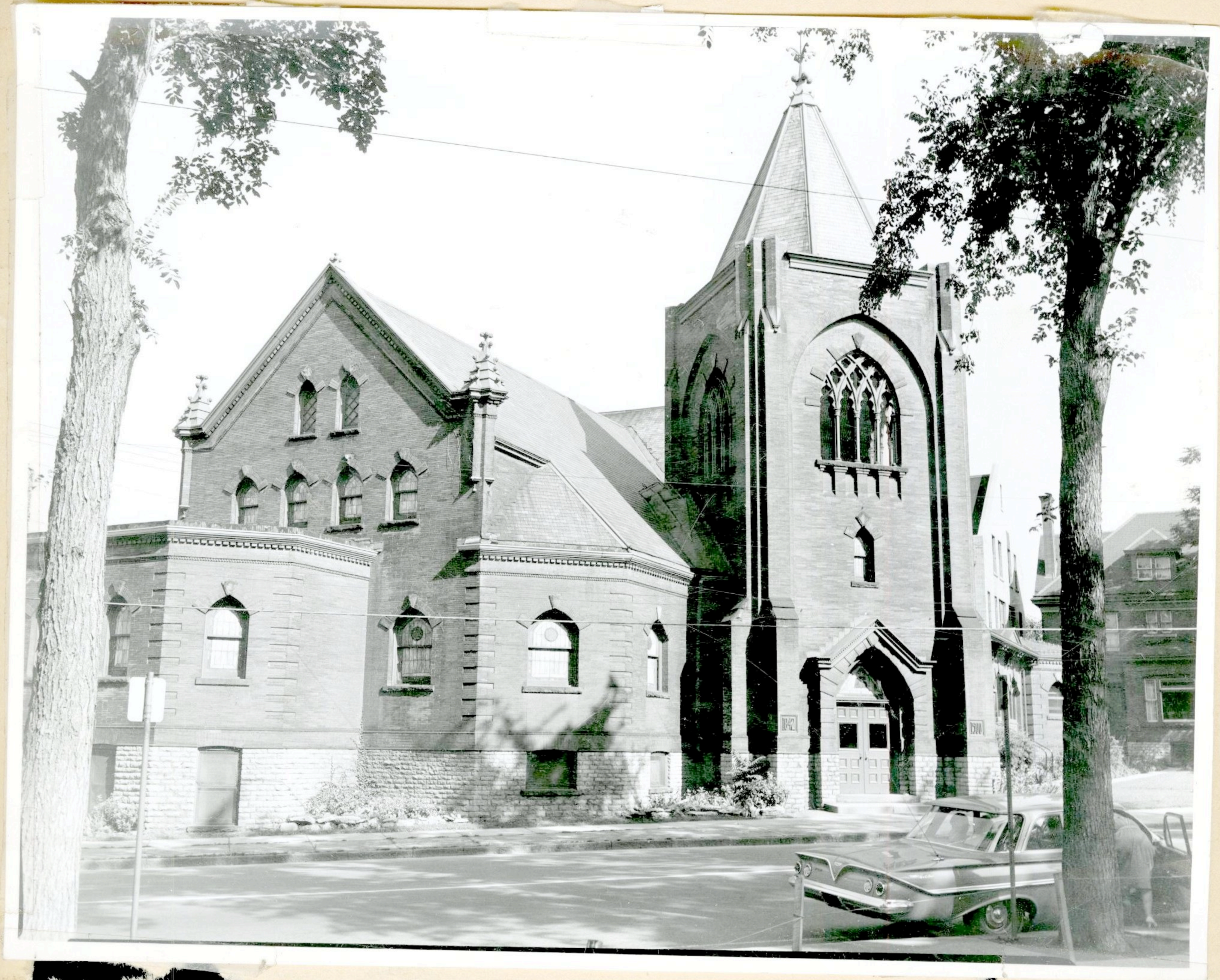
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Built 1901 - "To the Glory of God"
By "A Bible Believing and Covenanting People"



FIRST BAPTIST Church
Main at Fourth St.
NIAGARA FALLS,
New York

A list kept by
 our deacons among
 their notes.
 Kept for many years
 by Norman Vorher

Our Pastors

	Rev. Adam Cleghorn	Dec. 1841	to Jan. 1843
	Jacob Blain	Jan. 1843	Dec. 1843
	Adam Cleghorn	Dec. 1843	Mar. 1844
	Joseph B. Vrooman	May 1844	Nov. 1845
	Charles Keyser	Dec. 1845	Jul. 1857
	E.T. Robinson	Apr. 1859	Apr. 1860
	H.W. Barnes	Jul. 1866	Aug. 1870
	A.M. Tennant	Aug. 1872	Jul. 1874
	Evangelists Brand and Caldwell	Nov. 1885	Nov. 1886
	Rev. G. H. Kemp	Nov. 1886	Jul. 1888
	George T. Webb	Nov. 1888	Jun. 1893
	L. A. Mitchell	Jan. 1894	Jul. 1897
	James Rae	Mar. 1898	Oct. 1899
	Abner F. Bowling	Oct. 1899	Jul. 1905
	John E. Vassar	Apr. 1907	Jun. 1916
	Charles J. McLean	Sept. 1916	Aug. 1920
	Arthur B. Mercer	Jan. 1921	Oct. 1926
	Eugene G. Mintz	Jan 1927	Jun. 1931
	Charles R. Osborn	Nov 1931	FEB 1948
	H. Victor Kane	JUNE 1948	MAR 1957
	DONALD A. ROBINSON (Assoc)	MAR. APRIL 1953	
	ENTRIM PASTOR Albert K. Morris	MAR 1957	JUNE 1957
	ERIC L. A. HILL	AUG 1957	1960
	DAVID E. Kline	July 1959	
	Edward Gunther	1961	1966
	Pierre E. Tenger	1966	1979
	Donald L. Lawrence	Aug 1979	

THIS IS
YOUR
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- * What is It?
- * What does it Do?
- * How does it help You?
- * How can you help It?

The American Baptist Historical Society
1100 South Goodman Street
Rochester 20, New York

■ **Favorite season:** "I have always loved the fall, the colors are so beautiful."
■ **Quote:** "When I joined the Business and Professional Women's Club in 1944, I couldn't have imagined I would still be a member 50 years later."

1842
Articles of Faith and Covenant of the
First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls N.Y.
Adopted February 9th 1842.

Original
framed on
cardboard back
hand painted —
Water damaged
very brittle —
see other copy

Article 1st We believe the Scriptures both of the old and new Testament are the word of God written by men divinely inspired, and contain the only perfect system of faith and practice. Timothy 3 ch 16 v 31 1 Peter 1 ch 2 v 2.

Article 2 We believe that the Bible teaches among the following Fundamental truths. 1st The existence of one only living and true God, in every natural and moral perfection, sustaining the personal relations of Father Son & Holy Ghost. The three in essence and equal in attributes. 1st Tim 2 Chap 5 Verse 1st John 5 ch 7 Verse Matthew 28 Chap 19.

Article 3 That man was made upright but by violating the law of his Creator, he fell from that state of rectitude, lost all communion with God and in himself and all his posterity, in sin and misery so that mankind by nature being darkened rather than lighted are in a state of condemnation and the wrath of God abideth on them. Rom 6 in Gen 1. 26 Eccles 7. 29 Rom 1. 23 John 2. 29. That

Article 4 The only way of Salvation from this state of guilt and ruin is through the perfect obedience and expiating sufferings of Christ who died for the ungodly, and that those only who repent of their sins and believe in him will finally be saved by his atonement. John 3. 36. Acts 4. 12. Rom 10. 5. 10.

Found in 1981
original in church
files

Copies made
by Rev. Donald
Lawrence

Articles of Faith and Covenant of the
First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls N.Y.
Adopted February 9th 1842.

Article 1st We believe the Scriptures both of the old and new Testament, are the word of God written by men ~~divinely inspired~~ and contain the only perfect rules of faith and practice 2 Timothy 3 ch 16 & 17 1 Peter 1 & 21st.

Article 2 We believe that the Bible teaches among others the following Fundamental truths. 1st The existence of our only living and true God, in every natural and moral perfection; sustaining the personal relations of Father Son & Holy Ghost. The same in essence and equal in attributes. 1st Tim 2 Chap 5 Verse 1st John 5 ch 7 Verse Matthew 28 Chap 19th.

Article 3 That man was made upright but by violating the law of his Creator, he fell from that state of rectitude; lost all communion with God and involved himself and all his posterity, in sin and misery so that mankind by nature loving darkness rather than light, are in a state of condemnation and the wrath of God abideth on them. Rom 6. 23. Gen 1. 26 Eccles 7. 29 Rom 2. 23. John 2. 29.
That

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Rev. George T. Webb & Family
1888-1893



Uncle Jimmie Philpott
Early Baptist Pioneer
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

Note Stained Glass windows in
Church Sanctuary donated to



Rev. John E. Vassar
First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, N.Y.
1906 - 1915

Yakson
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Donated by
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Stowell



Young Men's Bible Class

First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Mrs Sarah Lane

1916
ANNUAL
OF THE
FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH
(INCORPORATED)

NIAGARA FALLS
NEW YORK

ture
made
this
reply.

West

h

49201

Jackson)

J. McLean Sept 1916 - Aug 1920

This is to Certify that

Ernest J. Smith

has subscribed to 5 Shares in the Young Men's Bible Class
New Roof Fund for putting a new roof on the First Baptist Church;
said shares to be paid in montly installments of five (5) cents each
on the first day of each month until the amount of \$1,200 has been
raised, but in no event shall the payment run after December 1, 1917.

This Certificate is dated October 1, 1916
from which date payments are due.

THE YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Certificate No. 55

By

Geo. R. Barnes Jr.
Treasurer of Roof Fund

For the Secretary of the
Young Women's Auxiliary of
First Baptist Church.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., January 24, 1921.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

of

THE YOUNG WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

of

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1 - This Society shall be called "The Young Women's Auxiliary of the First Baptist Church".

ARTICLE II

Object

Section 1 - To keep in touch with the various activities of the church and lend assistance in them whenever possible.

Section 2 - To encourage attendance at Sunday School.

Section 3 - To promote a spirit of good-fellowship among the members of the Society.

ARTICLE III

Membership.

Section 1 - Any young woman of the church or congregation who desires membership is eligible.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1 - There shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, annually, and who shall hold office until after the next annual election, or until their successors are appointed. The Secretary and Treasurer shall have assistants, to be appointed by the President at the first meeting after the annual election. This annual election shall take place at the first regular meeting in November.

ARTICLE V

Duties of Officers.

Florence Stowell
Maud Jameson.

Maude Ball



1920

1920

Knights of the Roundtable

Courtesy of
Robert Wetzel

The Knights of the Round Table Sunday School Class for Boys at First Baptist Church Niagara Falls, N.Y.

The Class for early teen age boys started in 1919 when most of the members were 10-11 years of age and was just another routine Sunday School Class with 5 or 6 attendants.

In 1920 Harry L. ^{Barrett} ~~Barrett~~ took over the Class as teacher, organized the Class which adopted the name of Knights of the Round Table or K. O. R. T. as it became known. Its motto was "Summus Exemplar" or "We are examples" taken from 1st Timothy 4: 12.

Mr Barrett not only lived up to this motto but soon convinced the boys that Christ was the true example to pattern their lives after. His lessons were informative and he always pointed out how the lesson subject applied to everyday life.

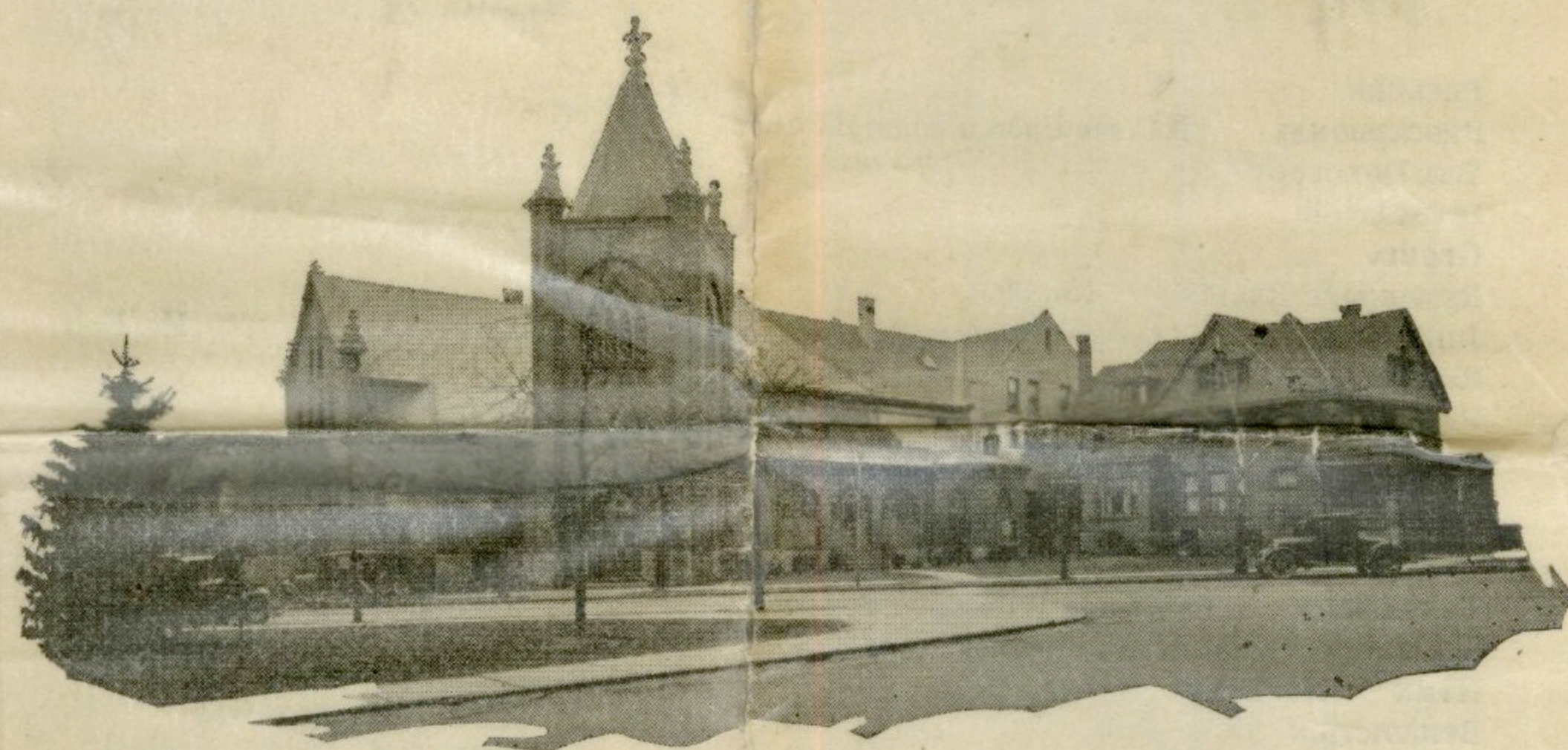
The Class grew in size until 25 to 30 boys attended each Sunday. A special table was provided by the Church Trustees.

It was, of course, a round table about 8 feet in diameter with the names of the members painted around the circumference. This meant quite a bit to the boys as when

1924
Dec 18, 1927

The First Baptist Church

MAIN AT FOURTH, NINGARA FALLS, NEW YORK



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON. - 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. EXCEPT MONDAY
MORNING AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON
CHURCH TELEPHONE 4666

MINISTERS

REV. EUGENE G. MINTZ. REV. KILBURN K. HOLT.
REV. & MRS. W. D. WIATT, Insien, Burma

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

CHESTER E. CAMPBELL, Music Director. LILLIAN E. DAVIS, Organist

EXECUTIVE STAFF

MRS. NORRIS WIDDOWSON, Church Secretary.
JOHN B. CLARK, Bible School Superintendent.
A. L. ALLEN, Treasurer.
W. N. BELDEN Financial Secretary.
L. L. WITT, Church Clerk.
SIDNEY V. JAMES, Chairman, Deacons
FRANK S. TRIGG, Chairman, Trustees
MISS E. L. MITCHELL, Chairman, Deaconesses

PASTOR



Rev. Arthur B. Mercer Pastor First Baptist Church
January 1921 Oct 1926

1927

98

30-25



Niagara County BYPU
Spring Valley
Fall Baptist Church
Niagara Falls Baptist
Shepardson Pub.

April 27, 1928

BYPU - 1928
NIAGARA Baptist Assoc.

1927-28

Mrs Sarah Lane

1928

The
First Baptist Church

CHURCH DIRECTORY
AND YEAR BOOK



Corner Main and Fourth Streets
Niagara Falls, New York

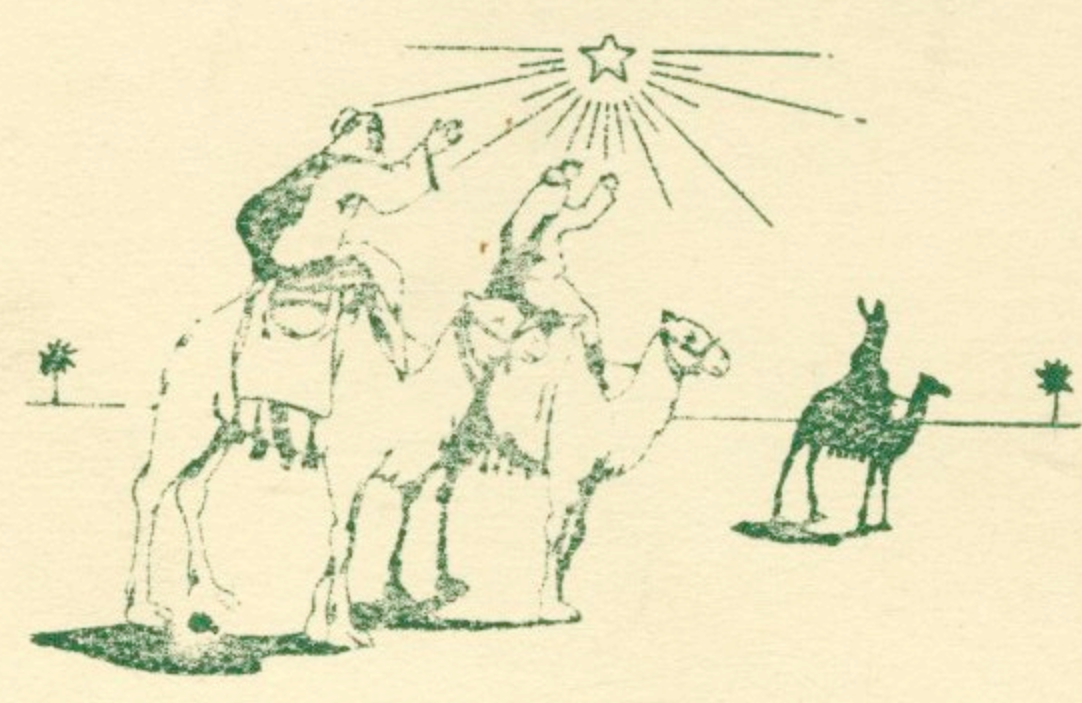
See Page 40
B.V.P.U. Press
Print Shop

Page 44
Boy Scouts
Harold R. Dye
Scoutmaster

Note the printing of
this bulletin was done
by the B.Y. P.U. press.
The Young People of the
Church

First Baptist Church

Niagara Falls, N. Y.



It isn't far to Bethlehem town!
It is anywhere that Christ comes down
And finds in people's friendly face
A welcome and abiding place.
The road to Bethlehem runs right through
The houses of folks like me and you.

December 25 1932

1931

MANUAL

First Baptist Church

Niagara Falls, New York

-1931-

printed by Youth of our Church

1935

October 3, 1935.

Report of Music Committee of First Baptist Church,
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Introduction.

At the meeting of the Advisory Board in May 1935 when the undersigned were elected to serve as the Music Comm. for the year 1935-36, it was apparent from the reports of the retiring Music Comm. and the various discussions and remarks from the floor that the status of the church choir was not up to the standard expected of it. The various suggestions, recommendations and instructions directed to the newly appointed committee implied that it was expected to make a survey of the general conditions of the choir and take such essential steps as it deemed feasible and within the scope of its constituted powers to improve the general morale and to provide such facilities as were considered necessary and at the same time compatible with the 1935-36 Music Dept. budget to permit the choir to function in a satisfactory manner.

The purpose of this report is to summarize the activities of the Music Comm. for May-Oct. and to indicate the general policy and program which the Comm. proposes to prosecute during the balance of its term of office.

Summary.

Results of investigation:---Before adopting any course of immediate action or formulating a general policy, it was decided to make a survey of the choir activities over the past year in order to be able to analyze the major problems affecting the general welfare and efficiency. The facts which were obtained in the investigation were reviewed independently by the members of the Comm. and thoughtfully discussed at Comm. meetings. The conclusions unanimously reached in these deliberations were that the choir was not measuring up to its fullest possibilities and that there was evidence of instability in the organization. The factors which were believed to contribute largely to these conditions included the following:

- (a) Lack of strong leading voices in certain sections of the choir
- (b) Continually changing personnel of the choir from week to week which made adequate training difficult
- (c) Tendency on the part of choir members not to assume their responsibilities and duties with due seriousness
- (d) A general lack of concentrated and rigorous training of the choir which was necessary with the existing personnel to insure that each member was thoroughly familiar with the music
- (e) Absence of a definite policy regarding choir membership and a well defined program as a basis on which to build and maintain a stable and efficient choir

In the light of these findings from the Committee's investigations, two alternate courses of action were considered as possible means of improving the performance of the choir:

1936

-2-

FINAL REPORT OF MUSIC COMMITTEE OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. FOR YEAR 1935-1936

June 1, 1936

To : ADVISORY BOARD

The objectives and policies of the undersigned Music Committee for the conduct of the Music Dept. of the First Baptist Church were set forth in a previous report made to the Advisory Board in October 1935. It was stated in that report that it was the purpose of the Music Committee to put the choir on as stable a basis as possible by encouraging loyal and faithful attendance of choir members at choir rehearsals and the Sunday services. A further objective was to co-operate with the Pastor in making the musical program a spiritual contribution to the church services and, at the same time, keep the operating expenses of the Music Dept. within the amount recommended by the Finance Committee.

The response of the Organist and Choir Leader and choir members to the proposed program of the Committee has been most gratifying. Through the cooperation of Mrs Smith and the choir, it has been possible to keep the cost of maintaining the Music Dept. within the appropriation suggested by the Finance Committee.

Due to the many diversified activities within the church, it has not been possible for many potential choir members to devote the time necessary for the regular choir membership. This condition has proven somewhat of a handicap to the fulfillment of the general program as the number of choir members who have been available for regular attendance at choir rehearsals and both Sunday services have been less at times than was considered necessary for a balanced and efficient choir.

The Music Comm. wish to acknowledge the several contributions which have been made during the past year specifically for the purchase of music and to provide special soloists. The sincere thanks of the Comm. are hereby extended to those individuals and organizations who have made the contributions. These extra funds have proven a substantial help in carrying out our musical program.

The total expenditures made by the Music Committee from the Music Dept. Fund for the year May 1, 1935 to May 1, 1936 are itemized below. The expenditures include choir operating expense, maintenance of organ and pianos, and the purchase of new song books.

MEMORIAL ORGAN

Dedicated May 14, 1939
IN MEMORY and IN HONOR OF

Mr. and Mrs. J. Oliver Banks
Mr. and Mrs. George Barns and Jeanne
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Batts
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Belden
Mr. and Mrs. Harlan A. Bond
Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Byram
Mr. and Mrs. Leroy J. Call
Mr. and Mrs. George Carnochan
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey W. Crofoot
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davies
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Dobson
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dovesmith, Sr. and Wm.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert C. Kercheval

Mr. and Mrs. C. Edward Lyon
Mr. and Mrs. Evans K. Newton
Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Osborn
Mr. and Mrs. Homer J. Gloeum
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Swartz
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Swick
Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Trigg
Mr. and Mrs. E. Z. White
Mr. and Mrs. Enos Widdowson
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest E. Wilcox
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Willis
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Wisch
Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Wood

Miss Della Barnhart
Mrs. Louise Harrold
Miss Inez E. Neal
Mrs. May Sweet

Miss E. Dora Page
Mrs. Florence T. Smith
Miss Martha White
Mrs. Burton J. Mosier

Hardy Family
Jackson Family
Pasko Family
Mrs. Roland J. Fleming

Berean Class
Inasmuch Class
Ladies Aid

1936

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Mrs. May Sweet

Miss E. Dora Page
Mrs. Florence T. Smith
Miss Martha White
Mrs. Burton J. Mosier

Hardy Family
Jackson Family
Pasko Family
Mrs. Roland J. Fleming

Berean Class
Inasmuch Class
Ladies Aid

Mothers and Daughters of Class Hold Annual Banquet 1938



Photo by Kondo Studio

Pictured above are those who attended the annual mother and daughter banquet of the "In-as-much Class" of the First Baptist church, held recently at the Prospect House. Mrs. Harlan A. Bond, teacher of the class, gave a prayer before the dinner. Mrs. Evelyn Kay, president, welcomed the mothers and Mrs. C. R. Osborn re-

sponded with an inspiring message. The evening's entertainment was featured by an address by Max Eaton, who told of his travels around the world, accompanying his colorful speech by pictures. The evening's program was concluded with a mock wedding presented by members of the class.

**MOTHER AND DAUGHTER
BANQUET**

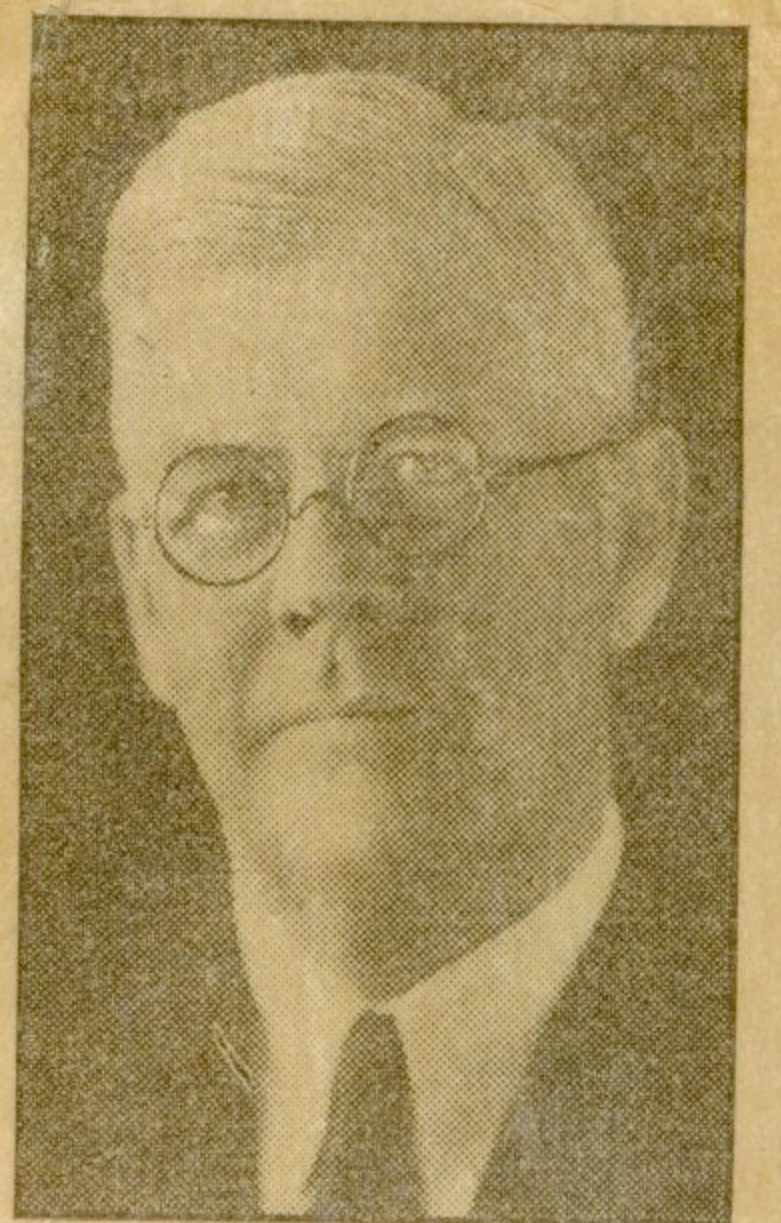
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



May 11, 1939

INASMUCH CLASS

To Preach Here



The Rev. John E. Vassar, who will preach tomorrow at the First Baptist church at the worship services, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m., and address the Men's Bible class at the Bible school hour, 9:30 a.m., on the lesson "Adventurous Faith." Mr. Vassar was at one time pastor of this church and is again living in the city. During the years of his pastorate here, 1907 to 1916, many were added to the membership, the Bible school and other departments of the church were built up and the finances for both local expenses and the missionary budget were in a very satisfactory condition. Mr. Vassar's many friends here will welcome this opportunity to hear him again.

1939



BEREAN CLASS, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.--APRIL 25, 1939

Celebrate Centennial of Falls Church



Throughout this week, members of the congregation of the First Baptist church, Main and Fourth streets, are celebrating the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the church. Shown as they gathered last night are the officers of the church congregation. In the group, from left to right, are: seated, Mrs. J. S. Wilson, treasurer; the Rev. C. R. Osborn, pastor; Mrs. John Broderick,

chairman of the deaconesses, and Marjorie Abend-schien, financial secretary; standing, Eugene G. Nutting, clerk; John B. Clark, chairman of the advisory board; Forrest E. Wilcox, chairman of the deacons; George R. Barns, chairman of the finance committee; Evans K. Newton, chairman of the anniversary committee, and Howard E. Stowell, chairman of the trustees.



Taking an active part in the anniversary celebration at the First Baptist church was the old-time choir pictured above. Dressed in costumes of the day and with the male members of the choir

attractive with hirsute facial adornments, those in the group were, from left to right, Lillian Kercheval, Florence Tschabold Smith, Ralph Beals, Mildred Shippy and Carl Bennett.

Church Must Shape World Future, Head of Seminary Declares Here

Call for Reconstruction of Responsibilities Issued by Dr. Beaven at First Baptist Church Centennial.

The Christian church must make the real decisions of tomorrow by throwing more light on the issues of life than any other institution, Dr. Albert W. Beaven, president of the Colgate-Rochester seminary, told the congregation of the First Baptist church last night at a service in celebration of the centennial of the local church. Dr. Beaven's address was a stirring call to the church to adopt a program which will more strongly activate the issues which affect humanity.

The service was presided over by the pastor, the Rev. Charles R. Osborn, with the Rev. Dr. S. S. Davies, of St. Paul's Methodist church, giving the invocation and the Rev. A. B. Washington, pastor of the Second Baptist church, pronouncing the benediction. Greetings from the Religious Fellowship were brought by its president, the Rev. William F. Saye, pastor of the Church of Christ, Disciples. The church clerk, Eugene Nutting, read letters of greetings from Mayor Ernest W. Mirrington, Jr., and various congregations of the city.

The service was followed by a delightful social hour during which refreshments were served by the church auxiliary. The program included a pleasing violin solo by Mrs. Mary White Hoser and an anthem by the church choir, directed by Mrs. Florence Tschabold Smith.

Dr. Beaven issued an appeal for the reconstruction of the responsibilities resting on Christian church life. Instead of regarding themselves as quiet places for the service of comfort, the raising of money for missions and for educating children, he said, they must go farther and help people think their way into the future. He added:

"We don't want to go back to where the Pilgrims were. But in those early days church and the laymen looked at the national scene and said 'this is the way to live' and poured their philosophy into the Constitution of the United States.

"There's no use just building church buildings. That doesn't bring in the Kingdom of God. Unless we take religion down into the lives of people—where life is hard and

hot and hellish—instead of just singing a few songs, it won't count for anything.

"Frequently today we are far more scared that some one in the church would say something that would count rather than otherwise, but in the future only those institutions that really count in the making of a better life will survive. Look at the church in Russia. It had plenty of money, but it was pushed aside.

"The new emphasis must be on quality rather than quantity. In the average church today only about half do some work and a fifth actually carry the load. In the days ahead the church must test its power not by the many names on its list, but by whether many of its membership are deeply committed to the way of Christ as the way of life. If religion doesn't count and determine our decision when we're at the fork of the road, it's innocuous and doesn't count."

The centennial celebration will be concluded tomorrow with a service of worship at 11 a.m. and a pageant at 7:30 p.m.

The pastor will conduct the morning service at which the guest of honor will be the Rev. George T. Webb, of Newfane, who was pastor of the church some 50 years ago. A communion service will follow the Rev. Mr. Webb's talk and the roll call offering will be taken. Later moving pictures will be taken of the congregation leaving the edifice. These will be preserved for the church records.

The pageant, which will bring the celebration to a close, has been written by Mrs. Leonard Bryant and will be directed by Mrs. Hubert Kercheval. It depicts the 100-year-old history of the church.

1942

1842-1942

ONE HUNDREDTH
ANNIVERSARY

of the

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

of

Niagara Falls, New York

CHARLES RUFUS OSBORN

Minister

PASTOR'S STUDY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Dear Fellow-member:

You are a vital part of a great church in a great city. Our church in its ministry reaches to the most distant places in the world. We now come to the beginning of a new Church year. As your pastor I covet for your sake and the success of our plans your fullest co-operation. These trying days demand that the Church be at her best. That we live in a nation that is not at war should make us doubly grateful. We cannot go forward as we should unless each member takes it upon himself gladly to do his part. I am asking you to pray earnestly for our church and its work. I want every member to make a special effort to attend just as regularly as possible. I am asking you to help make this Sunday a "Victory Day" by being present and bringing your pledge card and joining with us in a great service of re-consecration. Let us not fail our Lord in this crucial hour. I am counting on you. With kindest personal regards, I am

Your minister,

CHARLES RUFUS OSBORN.



Jan 29, 1939

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Main at Fourth
Niagara Falls, New York

OUR MINISTERS

Charles Rufus Osborn
600 Fourth Street Telephone 4666
Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Wiatt
Burman Theological Seminary, Insein, Burma

** ** *

I met God in the morning,
When my day was at its best,
And His presence came like sunrise,
Like a glory in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed with perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed,
But the winds that seemed to drive them
Brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings
With a keen remorse of mind,
When I, too, had loosed the moorings
With the Presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret,
Learned from many a troubled way:
You must seek Him in the morning
If you want Him through the day.

--Ralph Cushman.

** ** *

Florence Tschabold Smith, Organist
and Choir Director
Marjorie Abendschein, Church Secretary

Need for Religious Training to Preserve Democracy Is Stressed

Minister, Speaking at Recognition Service Here, Says Spiritual
Revival Can Be Effected Now by Will of People.

The necessity for religious training in the modern world to keep alive the spirit of Christianity and democracy was stressed by the Rev. Charles R. Osborn, pastor of the First Baptist church, in an address at a recognition service in that church yesterday afternoon in which course cards, denoting the completion of a six-weeks training course conducted for laymen and laywomen throughout the city under the auspices of the Niagara Falls Religious Fellowship, were presented to 56 persons.

Mr. Osborn's subject was "A Christian: An Interpreter of Life." In his address, he called attention to the fact that "God works in the eternities" and that men should not "become discouraged because certain moral and spiritual forces are meeting seeming defeat."

The Rev. Marvin E. Rickert, dean of the annual school whose students are composed largely of the young people and men and women who teach in the various church Sunday schools throughout the city, presided at the service and presented the course cards. Miss Elsie Burnham, chairman of the school's board of administration, read the Scripture lesson and the prayer was offered by the Rev. James B. McGaffin, registrar and treasurer of the school. Mr. Osborn offered the benediction at the conclusion of the service.

The service was opened with organ music played by Mrs. Maude Turner, organist of St. Paul's Methodist church. Besides several hymns sung by the congregation, Rogers' "The Lord is My Shepherd" was sung by members of the St. Paul's Methodist church quartet, composed of Helen Bunker, soprano; Leon Starkey, tenor; Helen Bridgeman Smith, alto, and Stewart Turner, bass.

Mr. Osborn's address follows in part:

"What is going to happen to our democratic institutions, which are founded upon religious principles if good thinking people are not going to take the time and interest that they

should to interpret Christian principles to their children or refuse to actively support the churches in the community which are trying to do so?

"They tell us that there are actually millions of young people in our land today who know nothing of the true basis of democracy, together with millions of adults who are not better off. Just what are they going to do when they help to shape our national policies tomorrow? They are the hot bed of anarchy and are receptive to every anti-religious and anti-democratic movement and ism in our midst. This matter of making religion effective in the home community and world affairs is a task so great and so imperative in the light of present day needs that it should have the hearty interest and support of all true citizens. The church is not, as some think, a poor beggar reaching for a dole but is the bulwark of protection for the most sacred things which we have in life.

"We have made the mistake in the past of supposing that architecture, proper ritual, exact creeds and elaborate organization would of themselves promote deep spiritual conviction. We are coming to see that these have effectiveness only as the spirit of the Living God possesses the individual life. Jesus said 'The spirit of the Lord God is upon Me for He hath anointed Me to preach, etc.' The anointing of the spirit preceded the social mission. It is also noted that a real religious experience in the face of the need for the world demanded a practical outlet.

"There are three things which need special emphasis in our day—to keep alive the fact that the human race is one in God; second, to remind this materialistic, pleasure-loving age that the things which are seen are, after all, only temporal; lastly, not to become discouraged because certain moral and spiritual forces are meeting seeming defeat but to remember that we need the long look and that while man works in time God works in the eternities.

"Not a single century has passed since the beginning of Christ but that there has been some in the world a great spiritual revival that has shed its influence more than one continent. It happens now and it can happen here—if we want it."

ONE HUNDRED YEARS

Ada L. Bryant

100 years

1942

We present this historical drama of the past one hundred years of our Baptist Church so that we may look back upon its early struggles, and honor those faithful and devoted members who organized and carried on the Baptist Church cause in this city with the true pioneer spirit. As we note the progress that has been made let us thank God for the increase.

One hundred years! Not long in the sight of the Eternal, but time for amazing growth and change in the history of peoples and nations. For one hundred years, this church of the living God has been marching on from small beginnings through trial and discouragements, with joy and hope for the future. Today we testify to the "Faith of our Fathers Living Still."

The few Baptists that dwelt in this community in the early forties attended the Baptist Church at Lewiston. Wishing to meet for regular worship nearer home, they petitioned the Lewiston Church to constitute them a branch of that organization. The request was granted, and in December 1841 the little company met in a covenant meeting. Elder Adam Cleghorn was made their under-shepherd, and at their first meeting they received Miss Rhoda A. Chamberlain as a candidate for baptism, which rite was administered to her on December 19.

In January 1842, the thirteen members constituting the Niagara Falls branch of the Lewiston Church petitioned the mother church that they be dismissed in order to form a fully constituted and regular Baptist Church in this community. The petition was granted, and on February 2 they met at the home of Maria Waits and organized themselves into the Baptist Church of Niagara Falls.

Cartan

Program

1946-47

NIAGARA FALLS COUNCIL of CHURCH WOMEN

Affiliated with
New York State Council of
Church Women
and
United Council of Church Women

Nineteen Affiliated Churches of
Ten Denominations and
Two Community Organizations

The purpose shall be:

- To broaden the interest of our local church women in Christian service;
- To strengthen our cooperation through understanding;
- To work and pray for the harmony and teachings of Jesus Christ among nations.

Only in unity can the world avoid confusion.

Dec. 1953

NIAGARA FALLS



MRS. H. VICTOR KANE
Illness fatal to pastor's wife

MRS. KANE, WIFE OF FALLS PASTOR, SUCCUMBS AT 48

Active in Religious Activities; Funeral Friday at First Baptist Church

Mrs. Maryn Elaine Kane, wife of the Rev. H. Victor Kane, minister of First Baptist Church, and a leader in many religious group activities, died yesterday at Memorial Hospital, where she had been confined about two weeks. She was 48 years of age.

Friends are invited to call at the Bell Funeral Home until noon Friday. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at First Baptist Church, with the Rev. Artemus P. Goodwin, Edison Street Baptist Church, Buffalo, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Donald A. Robinson, assistant minister of First Baptist Church. The Rev. Bruce G. Tucker, Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church, vice president of the Niagara Falls Religious Fellowship, will represent the fellowship at the services.

Interment will be in Armory Hill Cemetery, Ilion, Saturday.

Attended Bible School

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Kane is survived by a son, H. Victor Kane Jr., and a daughter, Miss Nancy Marilyn Kane, this city; her mother, Mrs. Jane Bennington, Ilion; a sister, Mrs. Thomas Williams, Ilion; and a brother, Edgar Bennington, Cortland.

Mrs. Kane was born at Granville, and was a product of Granville's public schools. From 1924 through 1926 she attended the Practical Bible Training School, Binghamton, and while there specialized in the study of the voice. She was married to the Rev. Mr. Kane at Northville and after the marriage she and her husband lived at Fabius while he served a small country church.

H. Victor Kane Jr., was born during the Kane's Fabius residence. Later, the family lived in Chicago. Ill., while the Rev. Mr. Kane was studying at that city's Northern Baptist Seminary and conducting a student pastorate at LaMoille, Ill. The Kane's daughter, Nancy, was born during a brief residence at LaMoille.

Helped Direct Camps

Mrs. Kane completed, while at Chicago, a special course for pastors' wives and with this training and with her talents as a soprano soloist took an active part in the affairs of her husband's earlier churches. She continued this activity until obliged to refrain due to illness.

At a later date Mrs. Kane assisted her husband in the direction of summer camps of the New York Baptist State Convention and in the Laymen and Pastors Conference at Keuka College, Keuka Park. She served last year as president of the Ministers' Wives Fellowship and also as vice president of the Women's Society, Niagara Baptist Assn.

Recently, also Mrs. Kane was active in the Women's Christian Fellowship and the Inasmuch Class.

Tells of Wife's Wishes

In explaining the desire of the family that no flowers be sent the Rev. Mr. Kane said:

"Not everyone has the opportunity of contemplating and preparing for the close of the earthly life as did Mrs. Kane. She knew the facts of her illness and was able to make plans expressive of her wishes for final things.

"It was her desire that those who wished to convey to the family the sympathy and esteem should do so by a gift to help combat and defeat the disease which would strike at others as it did her. She requested that there be no lavish display of flowers and we are therefore requesting that they be omitted. Those who desire to make some gift in her memory may send any funds to Harlan A. Bond, 30 Macklem Ave., who will relay the amount to Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., where the problems of nephritis is being studied.

THY WILL

".....as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." Eph. 6:6.

WOMAN'S SOCIETY

First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, New York

Charles Rufus Osborn, Minister

1946---1947



Pastor Kane's Quick Wit Puts Teaching Across

The instructors at Chicago's Northern Baptist Theological seminary looked with benign indulgence upon the merry-eyed young man with the quick wit and ready answer who enrolled at that institution in 1928 and, upon his graduation four years later, they wondered if perhaps "something new had been added" to the ministry.

Hugh Victor Kane, it appeared, had brought to a solemn and most dignified profession a sparkling and infectious sense of humor and, prior to his studies at the seminary, had taught two Upstate New York congregations that though life must be regarded in utmost earnestness they "must not take themselves too seriously."

Members of those congregations had been educated in the philosophy that a most practical way of becoming a "successful" Christian is to adopt as a motto of their lives the word "Joy," the letters of which the Rev. Mr. Kane had told them, represented "Jesus," "others" and "yourself."

Puts Creator First

"I have endeavored to show people," the Rev. Mr. Kane said today, "that their prime consideration must be their creator, their secondary thoughts must be for their fellow-man and consideration for and of themselves must be subordinated to the first two."

In the propounding of these principles the Rev. Mr. Kane has shown a remarkable capacity for gathering among them the gospel of cheerful, optimistic attitudes toward life and its problems. He has taught them, in addition, that the gravity in the task of "leading his flock" and administering to its spiritual needs has in no fashion detracted from his inherent talent to "see the bright side."

The smile with which his many friends associate him first appeared with the announcement of his birth, June 10, 1906, in the Derryneal section of Belfast, Northern Ireland. The happy addition to the family of the late Rev. Hugh and Jeanne Burroughs Kane looked about and decided that life was a serious business but that it had a joyous aspect and should be lived with this regard.

Worked as Shoe Salesman

Before he had attained six months of age the family immigrated to America and the father accepted the pastorate of a Baptist church at Hermon, in St. Lawrence county, New York. Within a few years the family moved to Erie, Pa., where the father became pastor of that city's Second Baptist church. The Rev. Mr. Kane's elementary and secondary school education was obtained at Erie's McKinley grade school and Academy high school.

The urge to enter the ministry had not become particularly moving at the point at which the Rev. Mr. Kane graduated from high school but he was aware of a desire to meet the public and to give a fair trial to the job of selling.

Accordingly he became a shoe salesman and worked at this trade at the Erie store of the Endicott-Johnson Shoe company. Following a brief period with this firm he moved to Chicago and the shoe department of the Marshall Field department store. Returning to the East after a "fair" stay with the Chicago firm he settled at Boston and became a member of the sales staff of the Arlace Shoe company.

Married in 1926

In 1926, during his stay in the New England city, he married the former Maryn Elaine Bennington of Mon.

At that point the call to the ministry had definitely asserted itself and the Rev. Mr. Kane accepted the student pastorate of



Photo by S. Alwyn Sand

REV. H. VICTOR KANE

the Fabius and Delphi Falls Baptist churches. After serving at this post for two years he enrolled at the Northern Baptist Theological seminary at Chicago, graduating in 1932.

During the years of his study and from the time of his graduation until August, 1933, he served as student pastor of a Baptist church at LaMotte, Ill.

The Rev. Mr. Kane experienced a tragic chapter in his career when the Memorial Baptist church of Cortland, the church building was completely destroyed by fire. Accepting his misfortune philosophically he conducted two services each Sunday for his congregation in the chapel of a rural cemetery for more than a year.

Wins Syracuse Degree

While assigned to the Cortland church, he had resumed his studies and in 1940, shortly before being transferred to Kingston, he received a bachelor of arts degree from Syracuse university, Syracuse.

For three years he directed the activities of Kingston's Baptist church and early in 1944 was appointed to Cranston Street Roger Williams Baptist church, Providence, R. I.

In June, 1948, he was appointed to First Baptist church here, succeeding Dr. Charles R. Osborne.

The Rev. Mr. Kane's congregation numbers approximately 1,100 members, including 320 Sunday school students.

Son Following in Footsteps

Of two children, Hugh Victor Kane, Jr., will graduate in June from Denison university, Granville, O., and enroll in September at Colgate-Rochester divinity school, Rochester, N. Y., and Nancy Marilyn, is a junior at Niagara Falls high school.

A brother, the Rev. James Sydney Kane, is pastor of the First Baptist church, Franklin, Pa.; a sister, Mrs. Grover Prince, lives at Camden, Ark., and a second sister, Mrs. James Walmsley, lives at Richmond Hill in New York City.

The Rev. Mr. Kane is a member of the Lions club, the Niagara Falls Religious fellowship and the Niagara Falls Poetry society.

When time permits, he indulges in hunting and fishing and among the local fraternity of nimrods and anglers he has established considerable reputation for his skill. In addition he has impressed with his abilities at horseshoe pitching.

He is called upon on numerous occasions to address local organizations and the impression he leaves on his audiences invariably results in a return engagement.

"More of the Rev. Mr. Kane's humor," his hearers agree, "is sorely needed."



REV. H. VICTOR KANE
New Baptist Minister

TAKES PASTORATE OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT FALLS

Rev. H. Victor Kane Comes Here from Providence, R. I. Begins Ministry June 13

The Rev. H. Victor Kane, of the Cranston Street-Roger Williams Baptist church, Providence, R. I. accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist church, this city, yesterday. He will begin his ministry here on June 13.

A graduate of Syracuse university and the Northern Baptist Theological

seminary, Chicago, Ill., the Rev. Mr. Kane has held charges in LaMotte, Ill., Fabius, Cortland and Kingston, N. Y.

Active YMCA Worker

During his residence in New York state, he was director of the Eastern New York camp for Baptist youth. He is now dean of the Rhode Island Youth camp, and was chaplain of the Youth camp at Ocean Park, Me., last year.

At the present time, the Rev. Mr. Kane is developing a community program of service in Providence, with a youth center and youth clubs being organized. He is an active worker in the YMCA and the Rhode Island State Baptist convention.

Recently he was leader in the Greater Council of Churches program in Lowell, Mass., making several addresses before 1,300 young people. From April 25 to May 2 he will participate in the Ten Day Crusades in Springfield, Mass., preaching in the Second Baptist church, Holyoke, Mass.

His religious articles, sermons and poetry have appeared in denominational and ministerial periodicals and in secular magazines.

Two Children

Mrs. Kane is a trained church worker, having worked with the Rev. Mr. Kane in youth camps. She is a member of the Commission on Christian Education of the Rhode Island Baptist convention, and served as secretary of student counselling for two years.

They have two children, H. Victor Kane, Jr., and Nancy Marilyn. The Rev. Mr. Kane recently presented his son with his license to preach, and H. Victor Kane, Jr. is now acting pastor of the Baptist church in North Tiverton, Mass. The son plans to resume his studies for the Christian ministry at Denison university this fall.

Nancy Marilyn will graduate from William A. Briggs Junior high school in June.

1948

Joy

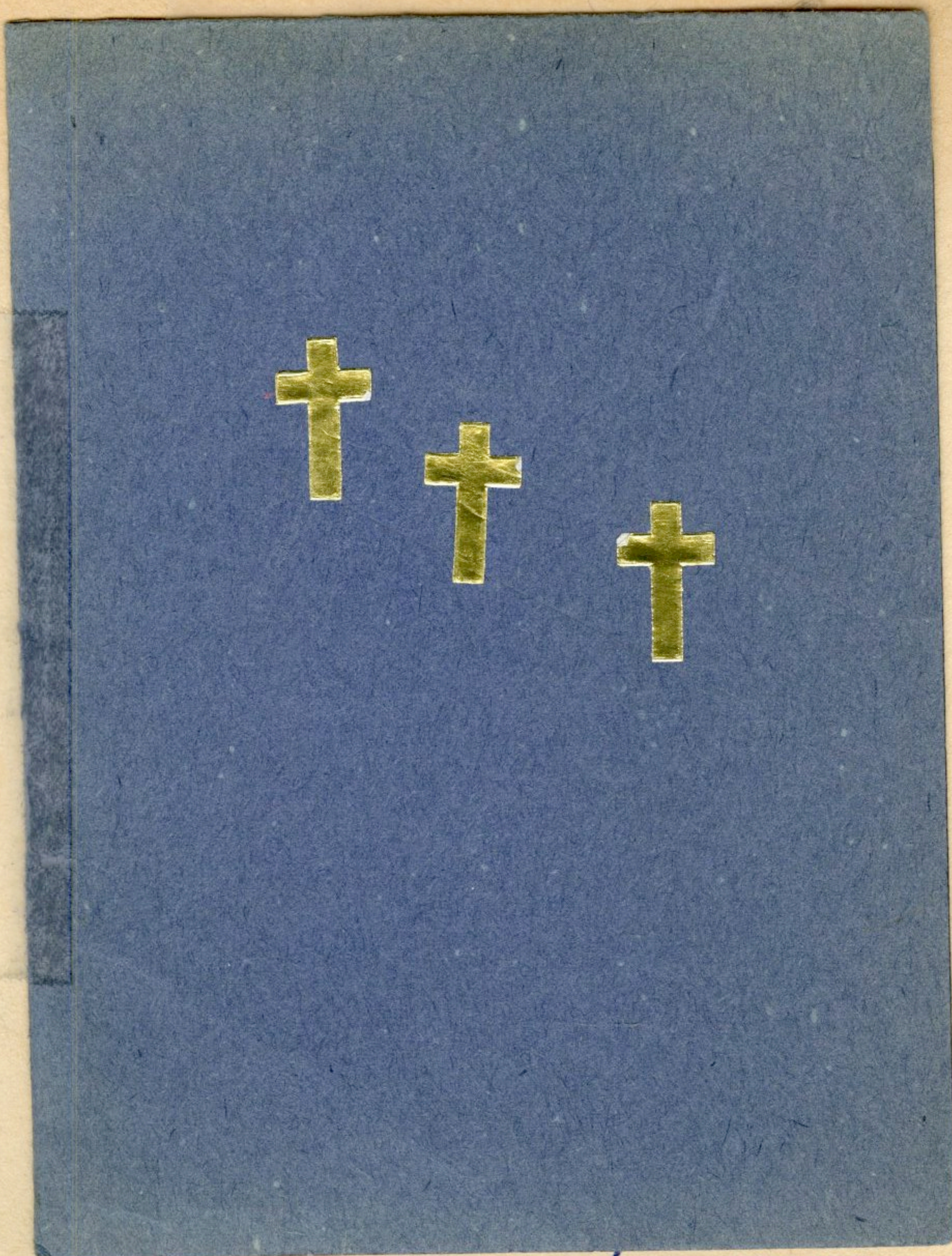
Smile

The Call

1949

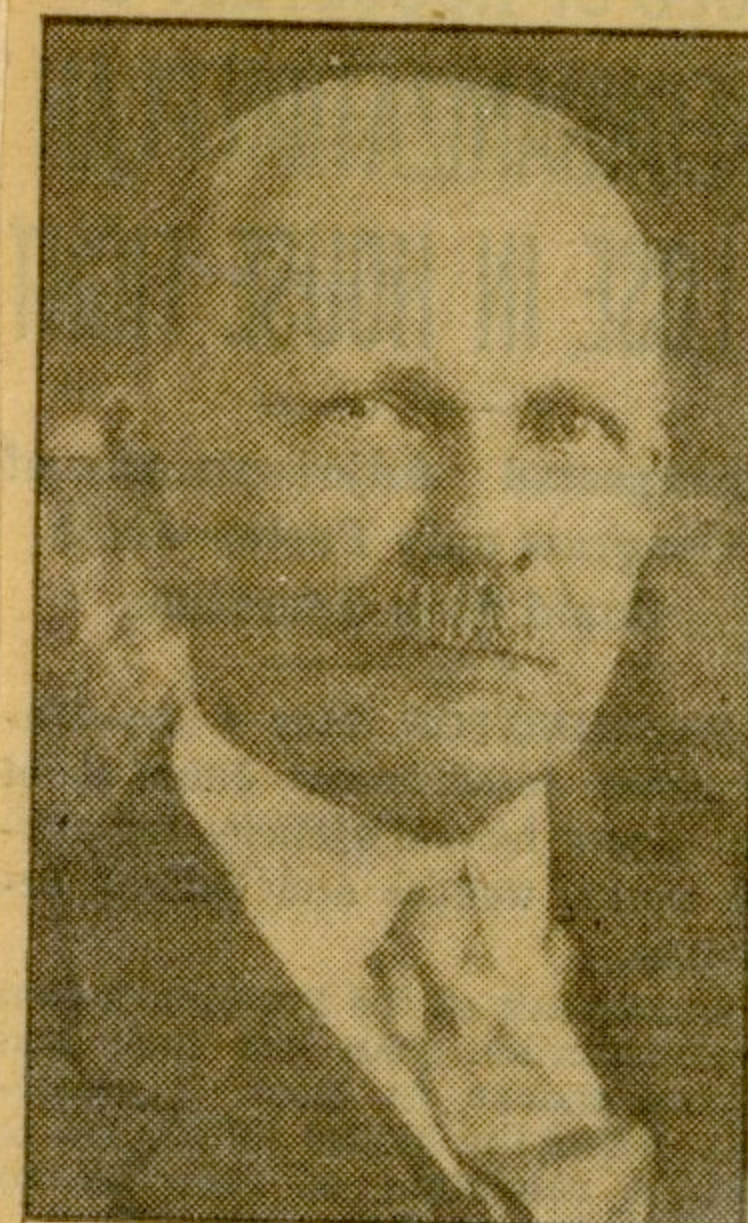


Marilyn Rev. H. Victor Kane



Youth Banquet 1953

1950
Honor Guest



The Rev. George T. Webb, of Newfane, who, with Mrs. Webb, will be among the guests of honor at the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the Women's Society of the First Baptist church, to be held this afternoon at the church auditorium. Mr. Webb was pastor of the church at the time of organization of the society and Mrs. Webb was its first president.

1950
Entertainment Program Planned at Baptist Auxiliary's Fiftieth Anniversary Dinner

Daughters of some of the first families of the First Baptist church will entertain the guests of the Women's auxiliary at the fiftieth anniversary dinner on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Mrs. William Hosler, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. Z. White, will present several violin solos and Mrs. Hubert Kercheval, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jason A. Johnson, will present a group of vocal selections. Mrs. Charlotte Grinager will be pianist and Miss Jeanne Barns, daughter of Mrs. George Barns, and the late Mr. Barns, will play for group singing.

The anniversary weekend being observed by the group is under the general chairmanship of Miss Mildred Mead and the honorary chairmanship of Mrs. Barns.

The program at the dinner will be opened by Mrs. Barns, who will give the invocation. Community singing will be lead by the Rev. H. Victor Kane, minister of the church. Mrs. Frank Jordan, president, will welcome those present and Mrs. Albert Allen, Marseilles, Ill., will give the response.

Mrs. Hosler will play "Gypsy Serenade," "Waltz in A Major," and "Perpetual Motion." Solos by Mrs. Kercheval will include "The Lord's Prayer," "Lyonesse," two nursery rhyme parodies, "A Big Indian" and "When I Love You."

The Rev. Mr. Kane will center his talk on "Smiling Through the Years."

The anniversary weekend also will include a get-acquainted tea to be

held on Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the church house. Mrs. Lloyd Shepard is chairman and Miss Gertrude Dovesmith is co-chairman.

Assisting Miss Mead as chairman and co-chairman of the committees are Mrs. George Halstead and Mrs. Andrew Baxter, hospitality; Mrs. James Swartz and Mrs. Cecil Chandler, transportation; Mrs. Clyde Jugle and Mrs. Walter Russell, publicity; Mrs. Clifford Kaumeyer, decorations; Mrs. Homer Slocum, kitchen and dining room; Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. H. Victor Kane, favors and programs, and Miss Laura Mead and Mrs. James Lafferty, invitations.

Serving as presidents during the 50-year existence of the group have been Mrs. Roy Croxton, Mrs. Edwin Larter, Miss Cleo York, Miss Gertrude Kurth, Miss Charlotte Ray, Mrs. Trueworthy Dudley, Mrs. Howard Stowell, Mrs. Charles Hill, Miss Laura Mead, Mrs. Howard Jamieson, Mrs. Samuel Wobig, Mrs. Lafferty, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Charles Wisch, Mrs. William Shedd, Mrs. Ross Hinman, Mrs. Arthur Kannwischer, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Swartz, Miss Belle Ray, Mrs. Arthur Grinham, Mrs. Amelia Frantz, Mrs. Parker Painter, Miss Clara Forshay and Miss Mildred Mead. Seventeen of these will attend the dinner.

Present officers of the group are Mrs. Jordan, president; Miss Laura Mead, vice president; Mrs. Frank Jayne, secretary; Mrs. Robert Bradley, assistant secretary; Mrs. Jugle, treasurer, and Miss Charlotte Ray, assistant treasurer.

1950
Teacup Topics

By DORA

Best wishes to the Women's auxiliary of the First Baptist church, which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this weekend. I notice that many of your former members who now live distances away are making a special trip to celebrate. Although some of your members have moved out of the city, they still are close enough to keep an eye on your activities and so also are coming here to observe the founding of the group.

Among them, I hear, will be Mrs. J. J. Dovesmith, Patchogue; Mrs. Ellsworth Bale, Barker; Mrs. Edith Lindquist, Penn Yan; Mrs. Peter Prozellar, Newfane; Miss Clara Forshay, Tuckahoe, and the Misses Martha Metz, Winifred Naylor and Cleo York, all of Eggertsville.

It has been a pleasure to work with your publicity agents and may I wish you many more years of active existence.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1952-1953

* Indicates those now in office whose terms
expire and who are eligible for re-election

BOARD OF DEACONS

Vote for 6 for 3 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Ralph Beals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Horton	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Dimond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Jones	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reginald Elmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *George Toner	()

Vote for 2 for 2 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gustav Mangsen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Herbert Timberlake	()
--	--	-----

Vote for 2 for 1 year

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Russell Manning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Howard Stowell	
---	--	--

BOARD OF DEACONESSES

Vote for 6 for 3 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs George Cannon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs May Hannums	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Mrs George Carnochan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs J Wesley Nesbitt	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Mrs Philip Grinham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs James Tucker	()

Vote for 2 for 2 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs Semneon McAnulty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs Clay Pavy	()
--	---	-----

Vote for 2 for 1 year

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs James Fraser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs Arthur Zortman	()
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vote for 3 for 3 years

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Vote for 3 for 3 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Mrs Michael Doros	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs Myron Weaver	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Mrs Everett Rhodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

BOARD OF USHERS

Vote for 6 for 3 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Herbert Ausderau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Clemenger	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carl Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Cragun	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orril Chubb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hubert Kercheval	()

Vote for 4 for 2 years

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harry Ellis	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Doros	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sydney Howarth	()

Vote for 4 for 1 year

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wilson Aaron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward Knight	()
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Howard Butler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edgar R Lever	()

CHURCH TREASURER - Vote for 1 ☒ Howard Stowell ()

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Vote for 1 ☒ Mildred Mead ()

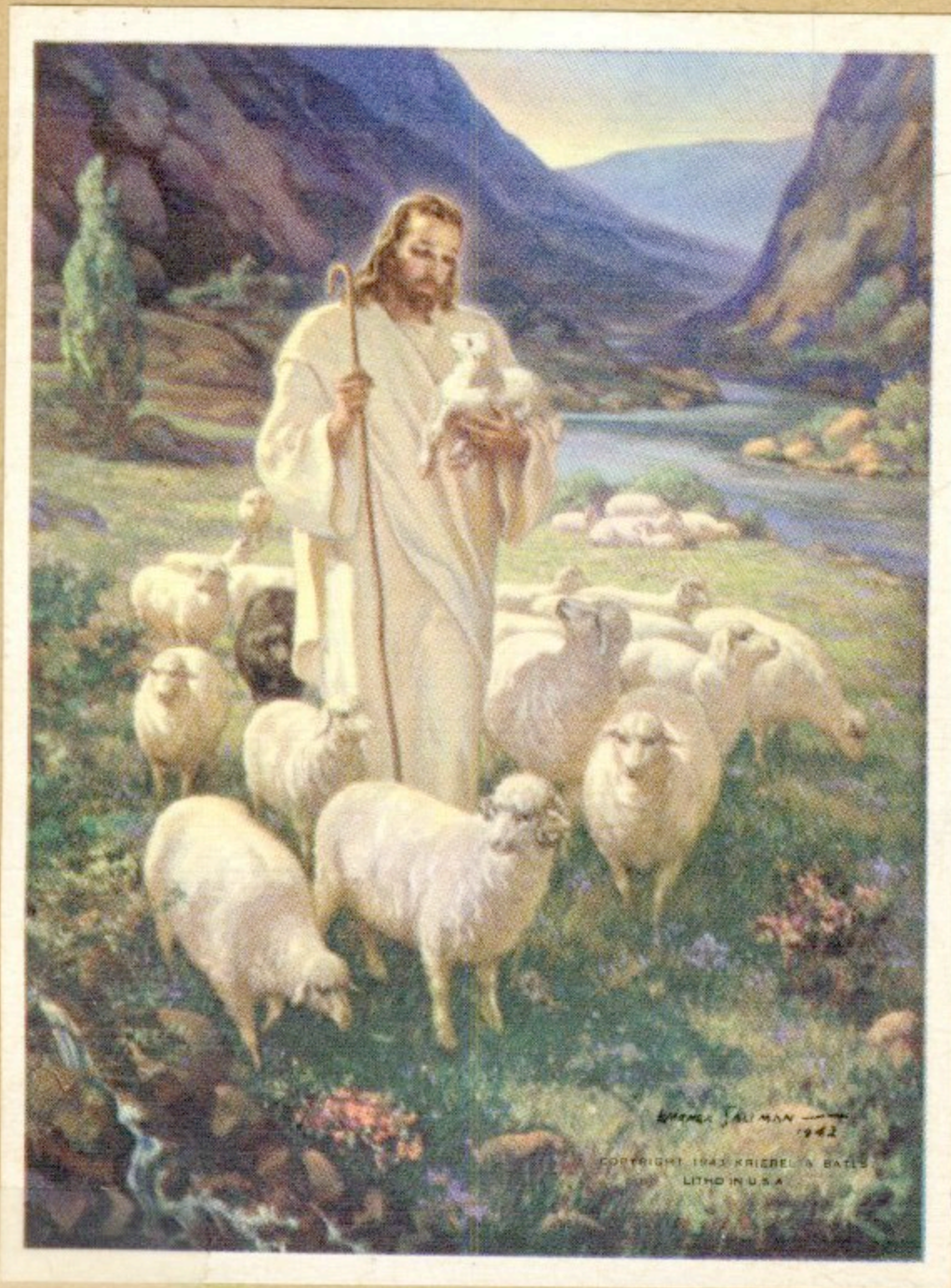
ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Vote for 1 ☒ Hazel Graham ()

CHURCH CLERK - Vote for 1 ☒ Wynona Tucker ()

ASST. CHURCH CLERK - Vote for 1 ☒ Pearl Thayer ()

CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT - Vote for 1 ☒ George Toner ()

1955-56



Women's Auxiliary

1954 - 1955

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, New York

Theme

WORKING TOGETHER, WITH GOD,
I BELIEVE

Ministers

Rev. H. Victor Kane
Rev. Donald A. Robinson

1966-1967

Women's Auxiliary

Baptist Church of Lewiston

Has Served 3 Denominations

August 3, 1963

By DICK KLUG
Gazette Staff Writer

SECURELY NESTLED under the strong, leafy arms of aged and towering elm trees at Plain and Niagara streets in the Village of Lewiston is a comparatively small, Colonial-styled church.

The white frame building has sat there for the last 127 years—a period which has seen it serve an Episcopal denomination, a Lutheran, and its present occupants, Baptists.

Located in a quiet, well-shaded residential section of the village, the structure is today spiritual home for communicants of Lewiston Baptist Church.

While the congregation itself is young—it was organized in 1955—its "new" home goes back to the time when the village was the focal point of business and transportation on the Niagara Frontier.

THE SOLID frame structure was erected in 1836 by the newly-formed St. Paul's Episcopal congregation of the village. The building was consecrated on Sept. 13 of that year.

Through the succeeding decades membership in the church grew slowly, but steadily. As the 19th Century turned into the 20th, the rolls of the church continued to add names.

By the early 1950s, the chapel's capacity—it today comfortably seats 130—was overtaxed by a 550-member church. St. Paul's built a new church and the building which had served the parish for more than a century was sold to the brand new Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Messiah.

Time, however, was to prove that the Lutheran group's stay at their new church would be short-lived. For within six years, the congregation had already grown to such proportions that it, too, found the church too small for its services. Thus, a new church was built and the old one sold, this time to a Baptist congregation.

THE LEWISTON BAPTIST group had been organized in 1955. Its first church had been reconvered from a home which the parish bought that year in Ridge Road, Town of Lewiston.

Instrumental in the organization of the Lewiston Baptist Church was a committee



LEWISTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Gazette Photo.

led by Robert P. Wetzel from First Baptist Church in Niagara Falls. First Baptist also contributed the first minister to its sister parish in Lewiston. He was Rev. Donald Robinson, who had served as an associate minister in Niagara Falls before being called to lead the Lewiston church.

Later ministers included Rev. Lester L. Hunt and Rev. Albert Scipione, interim minister until the calling of Rev. Carl E. Dawkins, the present pastor.

PLANS of the young congregation were big. A new church would eventually be built on the four-acre Ridge Road plot and the chapel reconvered into Sunday School rooms and other

church social facilities. But New York State, in the form of the State Power Authority, was to decree differently.

The church property lay directly in the path of the planned Niagara Parkway (now the Robert Moses State Parkway.) The land would be needed to construct an exit from the parkway to Ridge Road.

The congregation needed a new home, and when it learned that the ancient church at Niagara and Plain streets was up for sale it readily completed the deal.

THUS BEGAN weeks of arduous, do-it-yourself remodeling by the members. Walls were painted, a new

floor and red carpeting laid, pews painted white and the small white altar from their original church installed. The results were such that Pastor Dawkins proudly calls it "one of the most beautiful and worshipful churches in the whole area."

The Rev. Mr. Dawkins, who has led the church since Dec. 1, 1960, served a Baptist church in Erie, Pa., before coming to Lewiston. His longest pastorate since graduating from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School in 1929 was in Philadelphia. He ministered there for 20 years at Drexel Hill Baptist Church.

He lives with his wife at 255 North Fourth St., Lewiston. The couple has four married children.

Ohio Pastor To Take Over Baptist Pulpit

1957

The Rev. Eric L. A. Hill, formerly of Columbus, Ohio, will assume the ministry of the First Baptist Church here Sunday.

The Rev. Mr. Hill, who served as pastor of the 10th Avenue Baptist Church in Columbus, will have as his topic at the 10:30 a.m. service, "Jesus Came Preaching."

The First Baptist Church has been without a full time minister since spring when the Rev. H. Victor Kane left.

A graduate of the Northern Baptist Seminary, Chicago, the Rev. Mr. Hill spent three seasons in summer school at Union Seminary, New York City, and attended Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio.

Besides serving several pastorates in Ohio, The Rev. Mr. Hill was a trustee of the Ohio Baptist Convention for nine years, and headed many committees of that convention. He served the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Convention for seven years as book club chairman, and is a member of the Administration Committee of the Ohio Council of Churches, and is vice president of the Campus Council of Churches of Ohio State University.

The Rev. Mr. Hill was one of 50 ministers of the American Convention invited to attend the first Theological Conference at Green Lake, Wis., in 1954. He is a past member of the Rotary Club.

The Rev. and Mrs. Hill have two children, Mrs. Donald Campbell, Bloomington, Ind., and the Rev. Douglas W. Hill, Buffalo.

Rev. Eric Hill to Speak Sunday at First Baptist

Rev. Eric L. A. Hill, former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls, will return to his former pulpit as guest minister Sunday.

Speaking on the subject "They Followed Him, Mr. Hill will also conduct the service of worship in the absence of the pastor, Rev. Edward Gunther.

A graduate of the Northern Baptist Seminary, Chicago, the Rev. Mr. Hill spent three seasons in summer school at Union Seminary, New York City, and attended Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio.

Besides serving several pastorates in Ohio, he was a trustee of the Ohio Baptist Convention for nine years, and headed many committees of that convention.

He served the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Convention for seven years as book chairman, and was one of 50 ministers of the American Baptist Convention to attend the first Theological Conference at Green Lake, Wis., in 1954.



REV. ERIC L. A. HILL

While in this city Mr. Hill was active in a number of community agencies including the Lions Club. He is now retired and living in Ohio and Michigan, serving interim pastorates in various parts of these states.

The organist for the service will be Mrs. A. G. Abendroth with Miss Jeanne Barns singing the musical portions of the service. The service will begin at 10:45 a.m.

Baptists Feel Present Site Best for Church

By DICK KLUG

Gazette Staff Writer

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH is located in an area that is "critically underprivileged." Some 18 per cent of the housing in the immediate church neighborhood is "substandard." It's neighborhood is said to be the "third most dilapidated area in the city." The area ranks fourth in delinquency.

These are some of the entries made in a study three years ago of the neighborhood of First Baptist. The study, now called the "Scott Report," came at a time when the congregation was wondering where it should construct a proposed new church.

Notwithstanding these entries on the negative side of the ledger, the congregation decided in January of this year to build a \$380,000 church and education building right where it is—at Main and Fourth streets.

WHY IS IT determined to stick it out there? Why didn't it choose to move out into the nicer, cleaner and more spacious areas of the suburbs.

Rev. Edward Gunther, pastor, volunteers an answer, one that figured prominently in the planning preceding the decision:

"The downtown areas are the real battle lines of Christendom in America. It is there that the battles will be won or lost."

The minister moves quickly to assure one that he doesn't believe he's overstating his case. "If we can't win these people (the downtown dwellers) then we might as well give up."

Thus he explains one of the principal reasons why the congregation is now engaged in a \$160,000 fund raising campaign. Money secured in the drive, which ends Dec. 1, will go mainly to financing building costs. (Some \$40,000 will be for the church's 1964 budget.)

TO BE SURE, the congregation had other big reasons for staying where it is. Some of these are as follows:

- 65 per cent of the 725-member congregation lives within one mile of the present church.

- 90 per cent of the "unchurched" people of the city live in the adjacent downtown area.

- Urban planners figure that the urban renewal programs will bring a population growth of 30 per cent in the section in 10 years—from the present figure of 3,500 persons to one of 5,000.

- The location is near the center of tourist activity.

It all adds up to the fact that the congregation is meeting head-on the challenge of a rugged antagonist: the modern city,

with its slums, its crime, its highly mobile families, its restless youth.

THE NEW STRUCTURE itself, plans of which were outlined in last Sunday's Gazette, is designed to serve the various age groups within the congregation.

There's a nursery to make it easier for young couples to attend services; a spacious and comfortable lounge for friends to greet one another after services; kitchenettes to provide for the needs of small, informal groups; and rooms set aside for use by the youth groups.

Much of the spade work in the planning was done by the Planning and Strategy Committee. An interesting fact is not that it did plan, but rather that it's work will continue. "We feel there's no end to the kind of study that is needed," explained the Rev. Mr. Gunther.

The minister reiterated his belief that today's churches must adapt themselves to city life. To back up his point, he cites one study which predicts that by 1980 about 80 per cent of the country's population will live in urban areas.

Studies also show that the city dweller is highly mobile, moving on the average every three years, he says. Thus, he stresses, "to win these people you have to win them quick. You have to deploy the forces of the church rapidly or you just don't get them."

ANOTHER FACTOR studies show is the preponderance of older people in the downtown sections. The Rev. Mr. Gunther said his own congregation was no exception to this finding. This calls for, he said, church programs focused on the needs and wants of these people.

The minister also cited a danger of the large city church is that of becoming "too impersonal and big." The congregation must be concerned with the person, he said. Thus, he explained the reasons behind comfort and informality in the design of the new church and education buildings.

THE SHRINKING of the work week is having its effects on the churches. Its eventual reduction to 35 and 30 hours will possibly mean more traveling on weekends for the city dweller, the Rev. Mr. Gunther says. He pointed out steps a Unitarian church in Boston, Mass., has taken to increase church attendance to counter the weekend traveler—a 5 p.m. service each Thursday. The Sunday service was dropped.

The changes in the mores of urbanite, in his habits and peculiarities call for some "radical experimentation," stresses the minister. "The traditional program is just not going to succeed."

Area Students Do Off-Campus Training Here

Three area girls, students at Kenka College, Kenka Park, have returned to jobs in Niagara Falls as part of the college's off-campus work program.

Delma Mt. Pleasant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edison P. Mt. Pleasant Sr., 1767 Mt. Hope Road, Lewiston, is completing a vocational requirement at the First Baptist Church in this city. She is a junior majoring in Christian education.

Linda Pavy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Pavy, 8318 Frontier Ave., is working at Radio Station WJLL as part of a sophomore cultural requirement. Miss Pavy is majoring in English.

Donna M. Stephans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas M. Stephans, 603 Pine Ave., is fulfilling her community service requirement at the American Red Cross office here. Miss Stephans is a freshman majoring in English.

The fall field period runs through Dec. 21. It began Nov. 18.

NIAGARA GAZETTE 11-30-63



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Main and Fourth Streets
Rev. Edward Gunther, Minister
MORNING WORSHIP
10:45 A.M.
COMMUNION MEDITATION
SERMON TOPIC:
'TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE'
Church School 9:30-12:00
Baptist Youth Fellowship
6:30 P.M.

—His Handiwork—

NIAGARA Gazette
Saturday Nov 30, 1963

Pledges Now Are \$67,755

First Baptist "Mission 66" workers reported \$67,755 of the goal of \$160,000 raised at the first report meeting.

Individual pledges to date averaged \$569 over a three-year period.

Forrest E. Wilcox, administrative chairman of the building program "Mission 66," complimented Dr. P. W. Bash, head of Division 1, for getting the highest amount pledged.

About 80 per cent of the people have volunteered work or leadership as well as money.

The next report meeting will be held Sunday at 9 p.m. at the church.

11/30/63

Officers
1969 - 1970

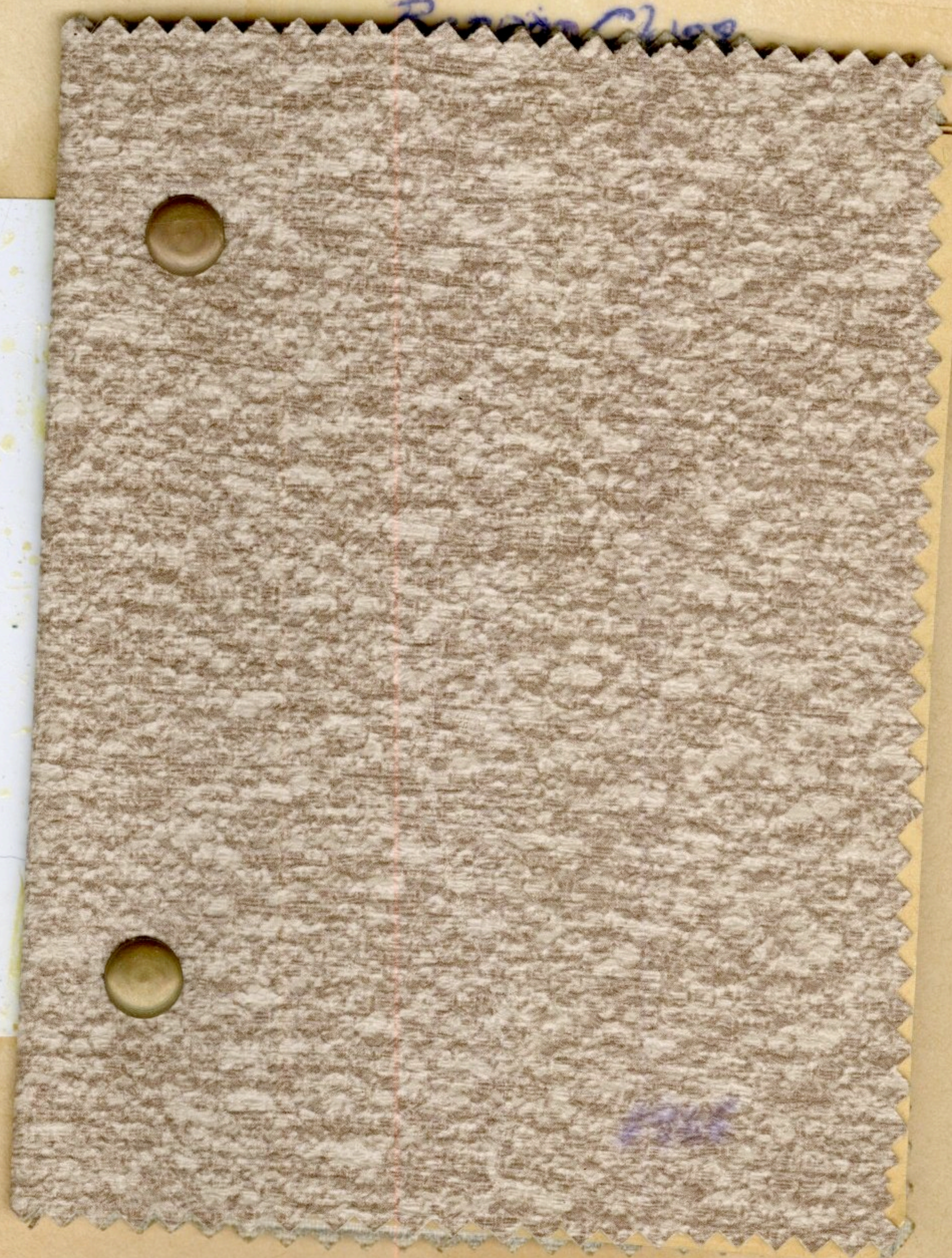
Pres. Marilyn McGee
Vice Pres. Mabel Negus
Treas. Grace Knight
Sec. Nettie Baxter

D.



1972

Berean Class

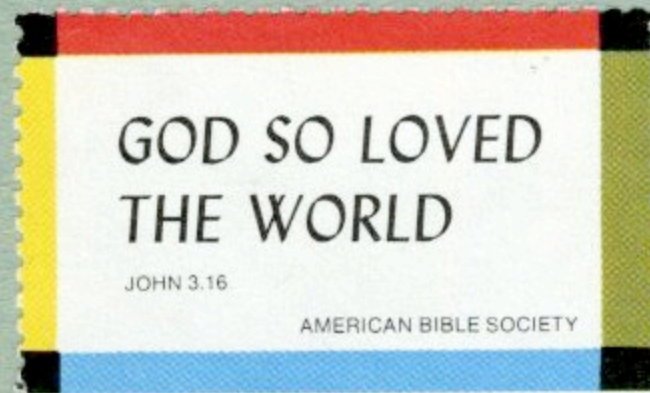


IN-AS-MUCH CLASS 1965



1974

Berean Class



1974-197

Berean Class

WOMAN'S SOCIETY

First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, New York

"BRIDGES"

1938--1939

Come over . . . and help us.

Acts 16:9

How shall they preach, except
they be sent? Rom. 10:15

Berean class

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE
1953-54

* Indicates those now in office whose terms expire and who are eligible for re-election

BOARD OF DEACONS

Vote for 6

()	*Alfred Aird	()	*Russell Manning	()
()	James Cragun	()	*Richard McArthur	()
()	Harry Ellis	()	*Howard Whitmire	()

BOARD OF DEACONESSES

Vote for 6

()	*Mrs Ward Abendschein	()	*Mrs J Ralph Saul	()
()	Mrs Michael Cirrincione	()	Mrs Herbert Timberlake	()
()	*Mrs James Fraser	()	*Mrs Arthur Zortman	()

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vote for 3

Henry Goodroe () J Ralph Saul ()
 Edgar R Lever () ()

Vote for 3

Robert Lowrie () *Mrs Frank Stiefel ()
 Herman MacAskill () ()

Vote for 1, for one year

n Summers ()

BOARD OF USHERS

Vote for 6

Aaron	()	Ward Knight
Butler	()	Edgar R Lever
Ingstrom	()	Clay Pavy

Vote for 1 () Richard James ()

H CLERK - Vote for 1 () Peggy Holt ()

- Vote for 1 () Howard Stowell ()

ARY - Vote for 1 () Mildred Mead ()

AL SECRETARY - Vote for 1 () Charles Black ()

SUPERINTENDENT - Vote for 1 () George Toner ()

1959

ms L

TOWER TOPICS

FIRST BAPTIST

Mrs. Allan Lane
2413 Pine Ave.
Niagara Falls, N. Y.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

Rev. Eric L. A. Hill, Minister

Phoebe B. Dovesmith, Church Secretary

Vol. VIII

May 1, 1959

No. 5

WE LEARN BY DOING

We have been termed a "Do It Yourself" age. Well, back in 1933, that great Christian personality of our age Dr. Albert Schweitzer, wrote some wise words and we are awakening to their wisdom as we face the baffling perplexities of our times today:

"The true understanding of Jesus is the understanding of will acting on will. The true relation to Him is to be taken possession of by Him. Christian piety of any and every sort is valuable only as far as it means the surrender of our will to His.

"Jesus does not require of men today that they be able to grasp either in speech or in thought who He is. He did not think it necessary to give those who actually heard His sayings any insight into the secret of His personality, or to disclose to them the fact that He was that descendant of David who was one day to be revealed as the Messiah. The one thing He did require of them was that they should actively and passively prove themselves men who had been compelled by Him to rise from being as the world to being other than the world, and thereby partakers of His peace.

"Because, while I was investigating and thinking about Jesus, all this became a certainty to me, I let my QUEST OF THE HISTORICAL JESUS end with the words: "As one unknown and nameless He comes to us, just as on the shore of the lake He approached those men who knew not who He was. His words are the tasks which He has to carry out in our age. He commands. And to those who obey, be they wise or simple, He will reveal Himself through all that they are privileged to experience in His fellowship of peace and activity, of struggle and suffering, till they come to know, as an inexpressible secret, Who He is..."

MAY SERMON TOPICS

- 3—"OPEN MY EYES"
- 10—"THE CHRISTIAN HOME"
- 17—"HOME TOWN APPRECIATION"
- 24—"CHANGING HUMAN NATURE"
- 31—"APPRECIATED MEMORIES"

MAY ACTIVITIES

- 1— 6:00 Father and Son Banquet
- 5— 7:30 Ethel Nichols Circle
- 6— 1:30 Alice Blanchard Circle
- 7:30 HOUR OF POWER
- 8— 6:00 Annual Spring Banquet Women's Fellowship
- 9— 4:00 Wedding of Donna Nickerson and William West in church sanctuary
- 11— 7:30 Women's Auxiliary
- 12— 6:30 Business & Professional Women's Circle
- 13— 7:30 HOUR OF POWER
- 14— 6:30 Council of Churches Dinner for Weekday Schools
- 17— 3:30 Advisory Board Meeting
- 7:30 Evening Meeting, Rev. Russell Raker, Speaker
- 18— 7:30 Board of Trustees
- 20— 7:30 HOUR OF POWER
- 21— 8:00 Inasmuch Class with Mrs. James Ripson, 3502 Seneca Ave.
- 24— 7:30 Ordination of Richard A. Bowser in Church Sanctuary
- 25— 7:30 Board of Deacons
- 27— 10:30 A.M. Mary Beth Fulton Circle
- 7:30 HOUR OF POWER
- 28— 1:30 LaSalle Circle with Mrs. Lynn Clancy, 736 - 84th St.
- 7:30 Board of Christian Education

1957

1956

Bid Farewell To Departing Falls Pastor

Approximately 400 persons, including guests from Buffalo, Hamburg, Hamilton, Lewiston, Wilson and North Tonawanda, attended the farewell reception in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. H. Victor Kane at First Baptist Church yesterday afternoon.

Junior hostesses and hosts were Clarice Ruhlman and Hazel Campbell, Henry Chapman Jr. and Roger Whitmire. Senior hostesses were Mrs. Hubert C. Kercheval, Mrs. Melvin Martin, Mrs. Everett Rhodes and Mrs. Howard Stowell. Mrs. Andrew Baxter Jr., Mrs. Harlan Bond, Mrs. LeRoy Call Sr. and Mrs. George Carnochan presided at the tea table. Serving at the punch table were Mrs. George Bowser, Mrs. George Skene, Mrs. Howard Whitmire and Mrs. Forrest Wilcox.

The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Kane received as a gift from the members and friends of the church a hi-fidelity radio, tape recorder and record player. The presentation was made by Forrest E. Wilcox, chairman of the reception and a member of the board of trustees.

Mr. Kane left this morning by plane to begin his new work as executive secretary of the Baptist Missionary Convention of the State of New York. Mrs. Kane will join him in Syracuse later this month.

First Baptists Will Honor 45 Sunday School Workers

An 84-year old 10th Street woman, who more than half a century ago began teaching Sunday School at First Baptist Church "because they needed someone," will be among the approximately 45 church-school workers honored at a dinner Monday at the church.

The church's Board of Christian Education is sponsor of the dinner which will begin at 6:30 p.m. Also to be remembered are two church-school superintendents, John B. Clark, who now lives in Florida, and the late Evans K. Newton.

Miss Sigrid E. Grottem, executive director of the Board of Christian Education of the Buffalo and Erie County Council of Churches, will be the speaker. Mrs. Ralph W. Beals is chairman of First



MRS. HOMER SLOCUM

Baptist's education department.

Started in 1910

Mrs. Homer Slocum, of 423 10th St., began her part-time career as a Sunday School teacher "about 1910." This was some 13 years after she had joined the church. She had previously attended a Baptist Church in Beamsville, Ont.

Her first job with the school was in the Cradle Roll Department. Work in this included visiting new mothers in the hospital and making visits to the smaller children at the homes.

Although she continued in this department until about

10 year ago, Mrs. Slocum also started teaching in the church's Beginners Department during the late 1930s. (The name of the department has since been changed to Kindergarten Department and she is superintendent.)

Not Much Change

Have methods of teaching Sunday School changed very much, during her long career? she was asked. "I really can't see too much difference," she replied.

However, she did say that she thinks the materials and teaching aids used in the school have improved. The stories in the religious books are "more interesting and much better written," she explained.

A pleasant woman with a friendly smile, Mrs. Slocum's long years of teaching in the church-school have left her with some fond memories.

Among them is that of the little boy she once taught in her beginners class. She recalls that he used to sing lines from one of his favorite Gospel songs as he rode his tricycle around the neighborhood.

Bit Different

However, the lines came out a bit different from the ones he learned in Mrs. Slocum's classes. The lines of the song went, "Jesus loves me. This I know because the Bible tells me so."

The way the boy sang it: "Jesus loves me. This I know because Mrs. Slocum tells me so."

The youngster was one of the hundreds of children she estimates she taught as they started their days in Sunday School. Today she is teaching some of the children of her early pupils.

Lives With Niece

She still lives in the 10th Street home that she moved into back in 1910. She lives there with her niece, Mrs. Mary Lou Aaron, and her niece's two children. Mrs. Slocum's husband died about 25 years ago.

Mrs. Slocum is the only living member of First Baptist who belonged to the church before the present building was erected in 1901. The previous church was located in First Street between Niagara and Main Streets.

MRS. MARY SLOCUM

NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE

1956



BID FAREWELL — First Baptist Church yesterday honored the Rev. Mrs. H. Victor Kane at a farewell reception. Forrest Wilcox presented departing minister and his wife to the congregation. Left right are Mrs. Hubert C. Kercheval, Mrs. Melvin Martin, Rev. Mr. Kane, and Mrs. George Skene. — Gazette Photo.

Mrs. Wilson Dies at 85

Mrs. Hannah Margaret Wilson, 85, of 3502 Seneca Ave., died Sunday (Jan. 26, 1969) in her home after an illness of several weeks.

Born in Beamsville, Ont. Mrs. Wilson was a resident of this city for 73 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church and belonged to the Niagara Falls Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, No. 582, and Messiah Shrine No. 18 of the White Shrine of Jerusalem.

She is survived by a son, George S. Wilson, and a daughter, Mrs. James (Nella) Ripson, both of this city.

Also surviving are two brothers, William and Donald Colquhoun of this city; a granddaughter, Mrs. Kevin (Mary Ellen) O'Reilly, Lockport; five other grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Bell Funeral Home Wednesday at 1 p.m., the Rev. Pierre Tangent officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday and on Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.



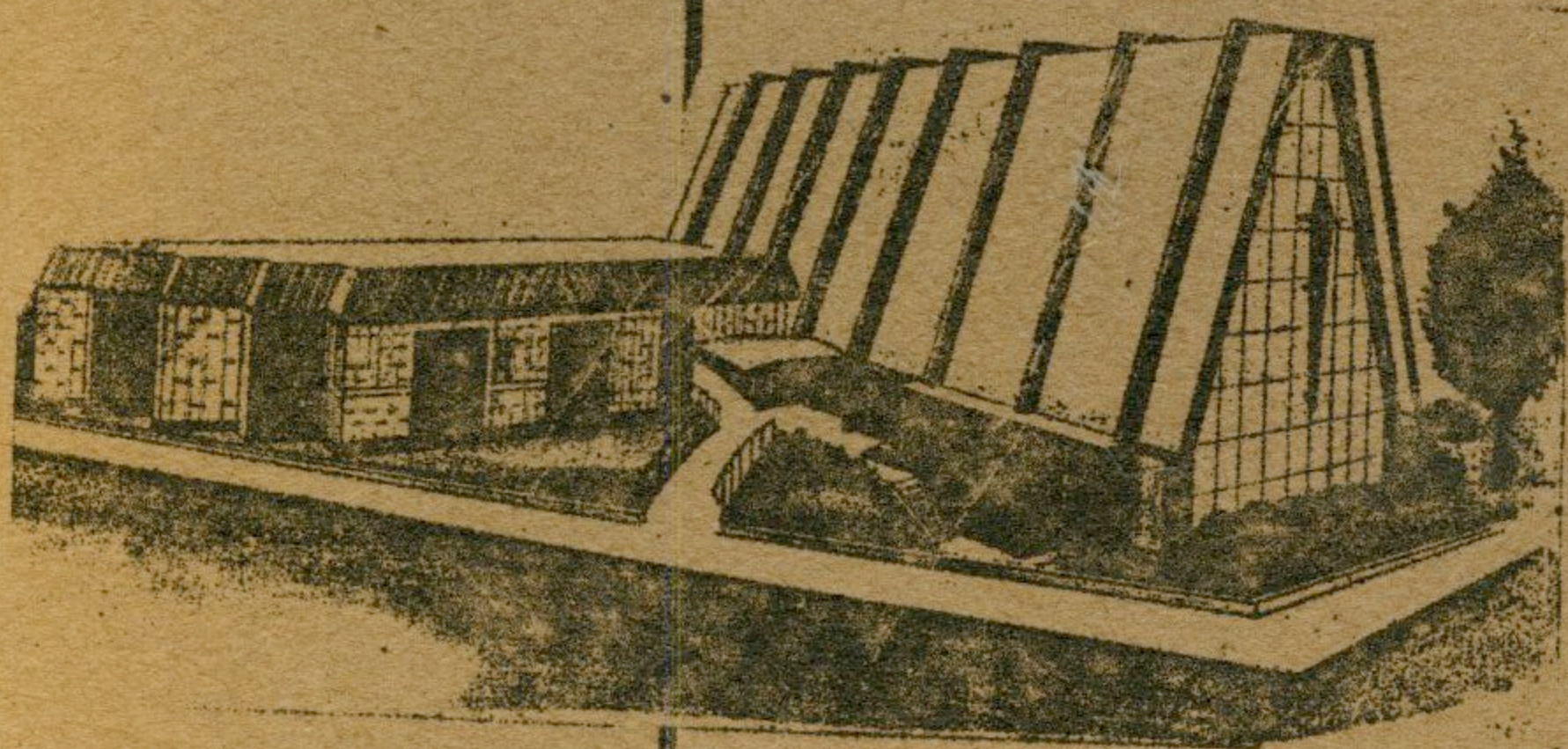
CHARTER MEMBER—and still active in the Business and Professional Women's Club here is Miss Mildred Mead who is completing a term as historian. Twice, she has served as club president and once as District head. Miss Mead joined the Carborundum Co., the same year the B and PW

was chartered. She retired in 1951. She had been in a supervisory capacity for secretaries. Since, she has traveled extensively but found time to keep up with her club affiliations and make many contributions to the organization which she helped to launch.

1963

1965-66

Test of Faith



ARRANGED
by
Robert Confer

Thanksgiving 1965



Christmas 1965

Pleasing Confidence

The congregation of First Baptist Church has joined individuals and organizations that have shown confidence in Niagara Falls' future.

First Baptist has announced plans for a \$380,000 redevelopment with a scheduled new \$206,000 church edifice and a future \$174,000 education building.

The church membership has wisely decided to build the new structures on the present First Baptist site at Main Street near Fourth Street. Its unique architecture will blend with the urban renewal development.

Even though the boldly modern design—symbolizing folded hands in prayer—will be a departure from the design of the present church, the new building will be planned to harmonize with nearby structures. Its height will be close to that of the nearby Main Post Office, the YWCA building and Masonic Temple.

The congregation of First Baptist has one of the longest histories among Niagara Falls churches—122 years—but its outlook is fresh and confident. We congratulate its members.

1966

1965-1966

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

of

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

Rev Edward Gunther
Minister



CIRCA 1841—Dressed in costumes of more than a century ago are, from left, Mrs. Melvin Martin and Mrs. Robert O. Steele. Seated is Mrs. Warren Reysen. The trio are preparing for the "Mission 66" Oldtimers Dinner at the First Baptist Church Wednesday and Thursday night.

Baptist Church Plans Old Timers' Dinners

1966

The First Baptist Church will hold duplicate Old Timers dinners and programs Wednesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. at the church.

Speakers will outline the purpose and plans of "Mission 66," the program to build a new church and step up service to the community.

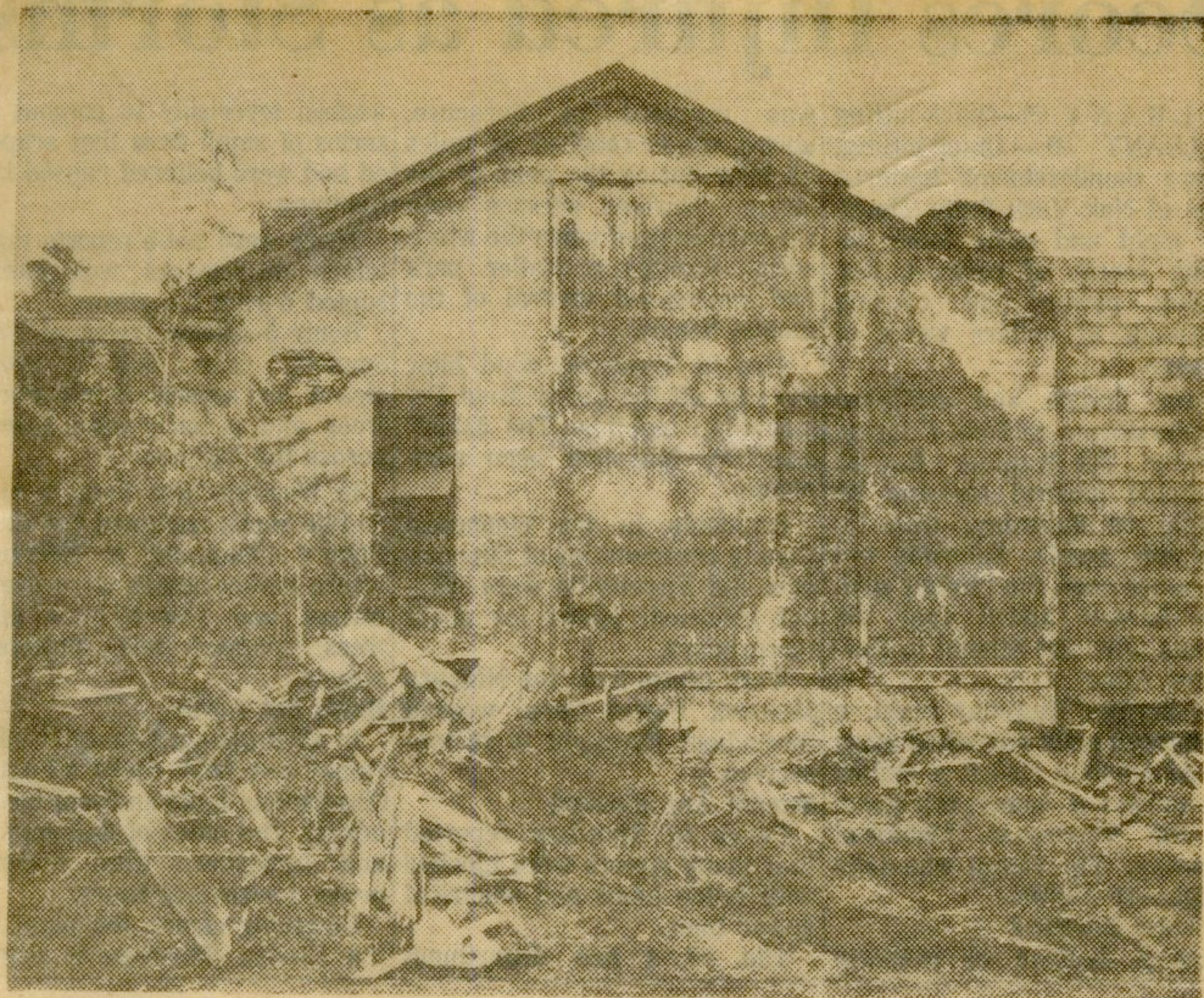
Moderators will be Forrest Wilcox and Leo Dunham. Speakers will be Andrew Baxter Jr., E. L. Rhodes, G. F. Toner, Frank H. Stiefel, Robert O. Steele, Warren H. Reysen, Dr. P. W. Bash, L. Bruce Dent, Raymond Sass, Mrs. J. L. Palmer, Bert Foote, Miss Mildred Mead, Mrs. Ralph Beals, Mrs. Robert O. Steele, Miss Kay Keller, Bradley Tompkins, G., Rev. Daniel Evans and Rev. Edward Gunther.

Mrs. Robert O. Steele is chairman of the Women's Division and Mrs. Melvin Martin and Mrs. Warren Reysen are co-chairmen.

Christmas
1965



FEB 66



UNCOVERED PAST—Workmen demolishing the old Elderfield-Hartshorn warehouse in First Street uncovered the remains of the original

First Baptist Church. The church, built in 1854, was the fifth house of worship to be erected in Niagara Falls.

Razing of Warehouse Bares Baptist Church Built in 1854

By JOE OGNIBENE

Wrecking crews tearing down the old Elderfield-Hartshorn Hardware warehouse in First Street uncovered a relic of the

religious community of early Niagara Falls.

The relic is the original First Baptist Church built in 1854.

All that remained of the church after workmen stripped away surrounding structures were the stone walls, outline of the roof and parts of two stained glass windows.

When the church was built Niagara Falls could boast of only four other places of worship.

The windows, partially walled in, still have a few pieces of red and green stained glass in them to remind viewers of its once holy purpose.

The Baptists of Niagara Falls in 1842 petitioned the parent church in Lewiston to allow them to start a congregation of their own. After permission was granted services were held in various homes until the church was erected in 1854.

A rectangular building 40 feet by 36 feet, with walls 14 inches thick, made of stone quarried from a quarry near Niagara University, the church served the Baptist community until January 1901.

At that time the new Baptist Church, located in Main St., was ready for use and the old church was abandoned.

For a time the church was

used as a temporary school house while the present Third Street School was being built.

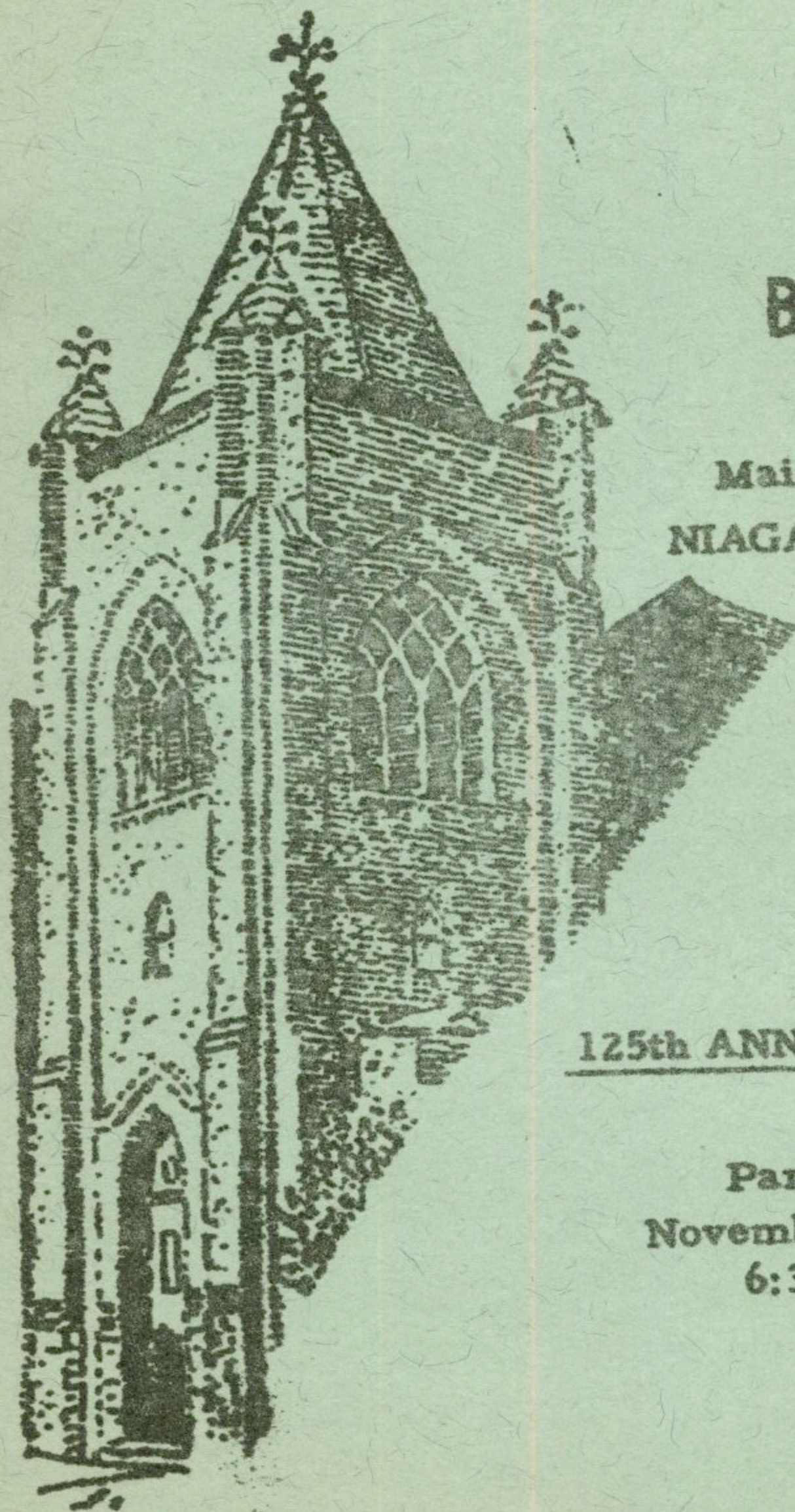
Early records indicate one of the main reasons for the move to the present location was the increasing amount of rail road traffic at the rear of the church and the noise was more than could be coped with.

The church property was purchased to become part of the hardware company warehouse and building. Expansion swallowed the original outlines of the building.

Wrecking crews tearing down the warehouse uncovered what remained of the back of the church.

"It will probably be all down in a few days," they said.

See
"Out of Our Past"
—historical→



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

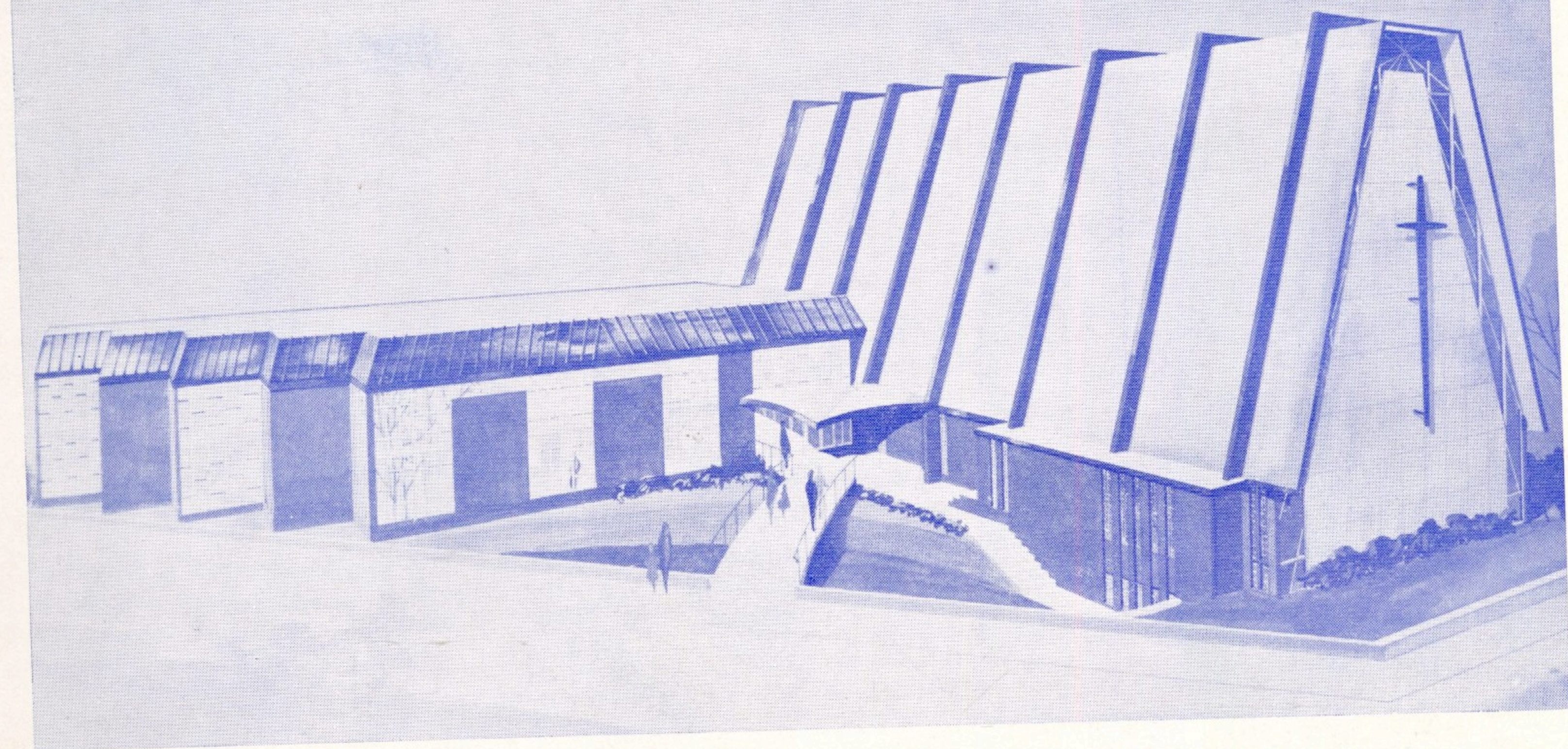
Main at Fourth Street
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

1842 -
1967

125th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

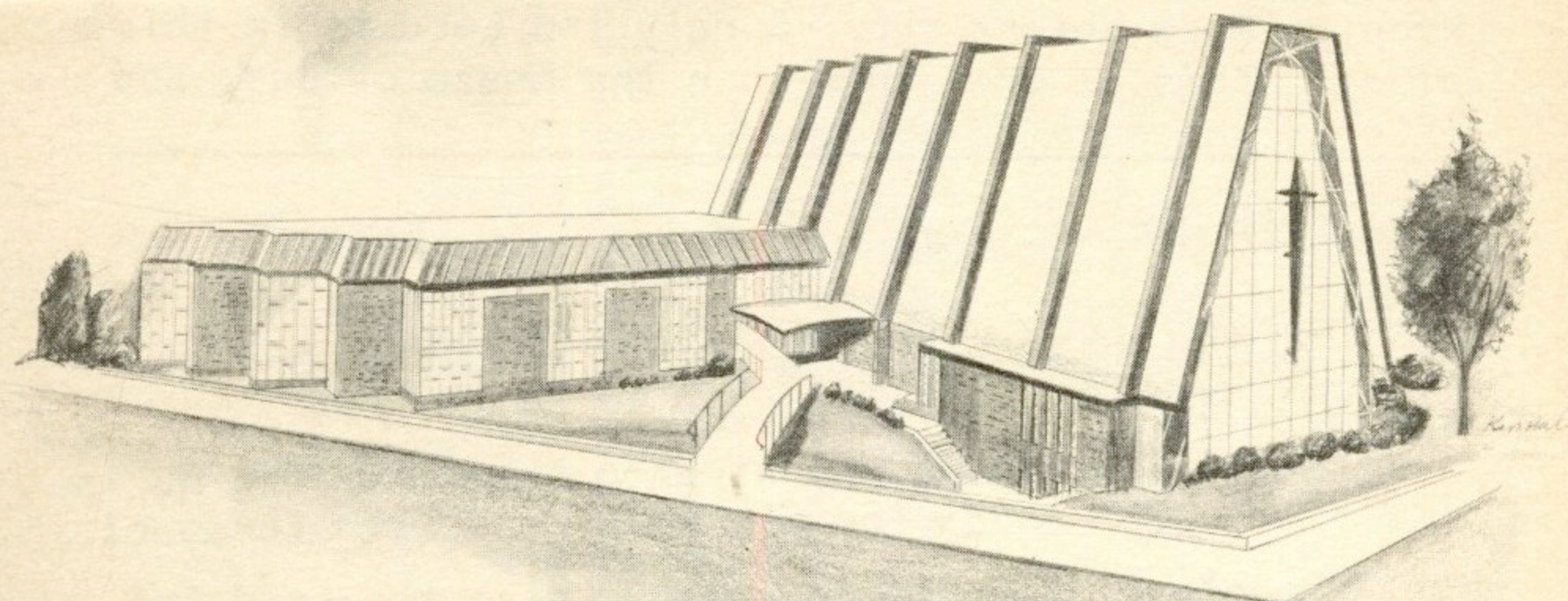
Parkway Inn
November 15, 1967
6:30 P. M.

Mission '66



First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls, New York

We tried -----
 Good example of influences
 of gov't planning or lack of
 it. New bridge to Canada
 placed down RIVER and Main
 Street and Walnut Ave. not
 released until some years
 later.
 Great stewardship and
 planning. The Glory of God
 continues to be the abiding
 Goal of our congregation.



"A Likeness of Our Dream"

First Baptist Church

ORGANIZED IN 1841

MAIN AND FOURTH STREETS
 NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

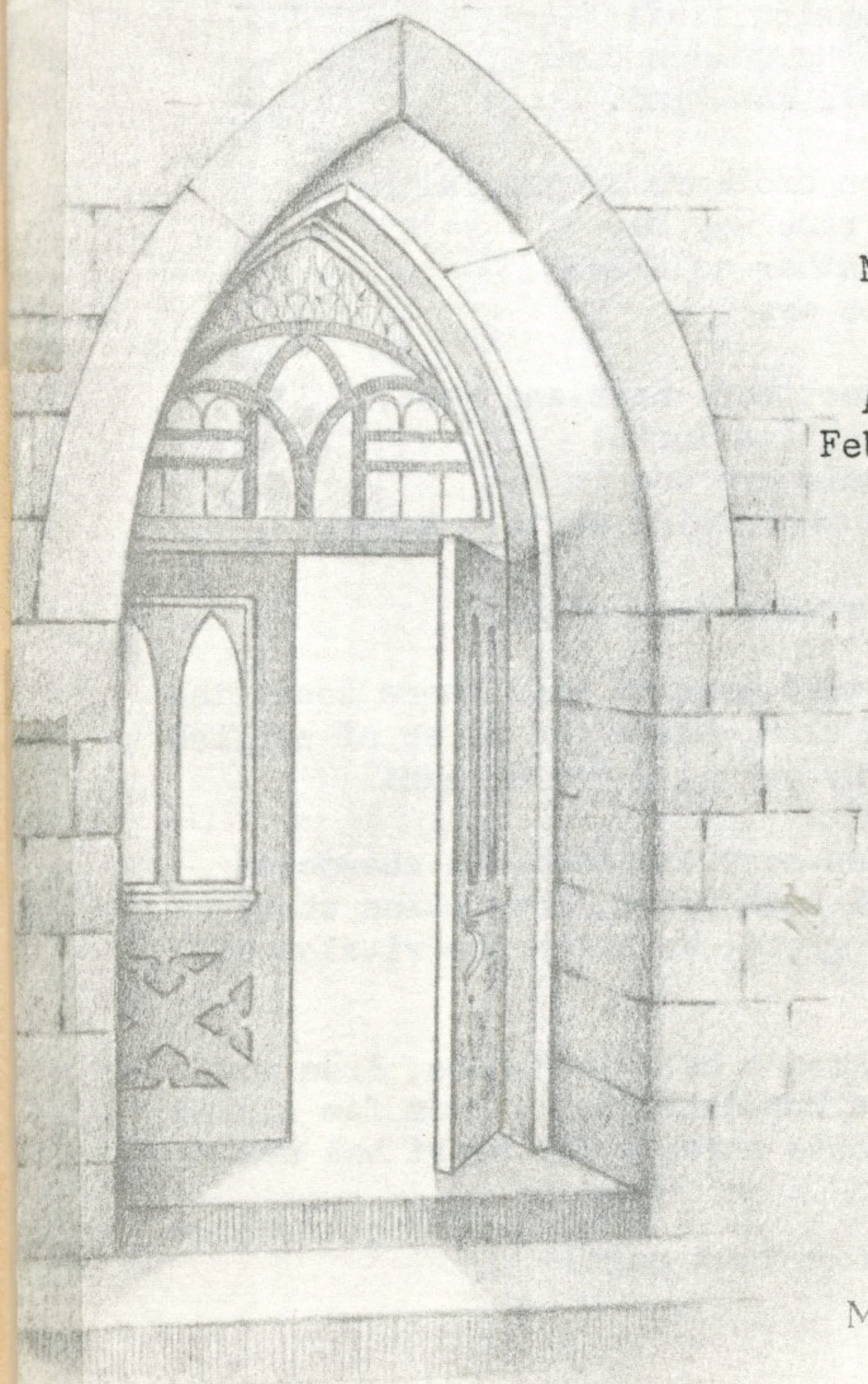


THE REV. WILLIAM HUGH TUCKER
 GUEST MINISTER

Miss Zelda Bate, *Missionary to Assam*
 Audrey A. Havsky, *Organist and Director of Music*
 Louise A. Kirkpatrick, *Church Secretary*
 Robert A. Stirling, *Custodian*
 Church Telephone 282-4666

The First Baptist Church was organized in 1841 and has ministered continuously to the Center City area. The present edifice was erected in 1900, with plans now being considered for a new one as shown above in the architect's sketch. This church welcomes into its membership people from all races, requiring only that they believe in Jesus Christ as the Revealer of God and the Redeemer of man. Membership may be obtained upon application to the Diaconate, either through Affirmation of Faith and Baptism, Transfer of Letter from another church, or upon Re-affirmation of Faith where previous church membership has lapsed. This Church is affiliated with the American Baptist Convention.

First Baptist Church



NIAGARA BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting
February 13, 1966

MEDINA, NEW YORK

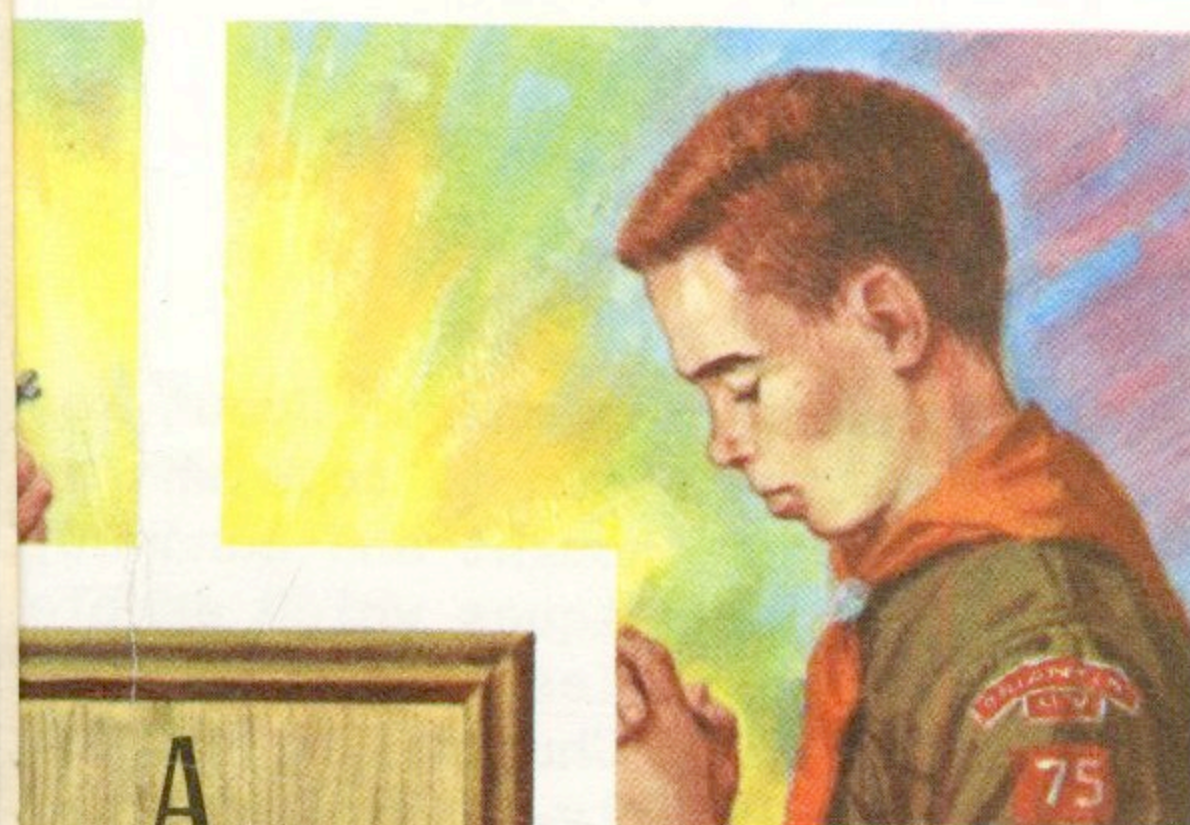
1966

Baptist of NIAGARA FRONTIER

Many years met the challenge
of exchange between urban people
and rural peoples.

Glory to God and profitable to
people.

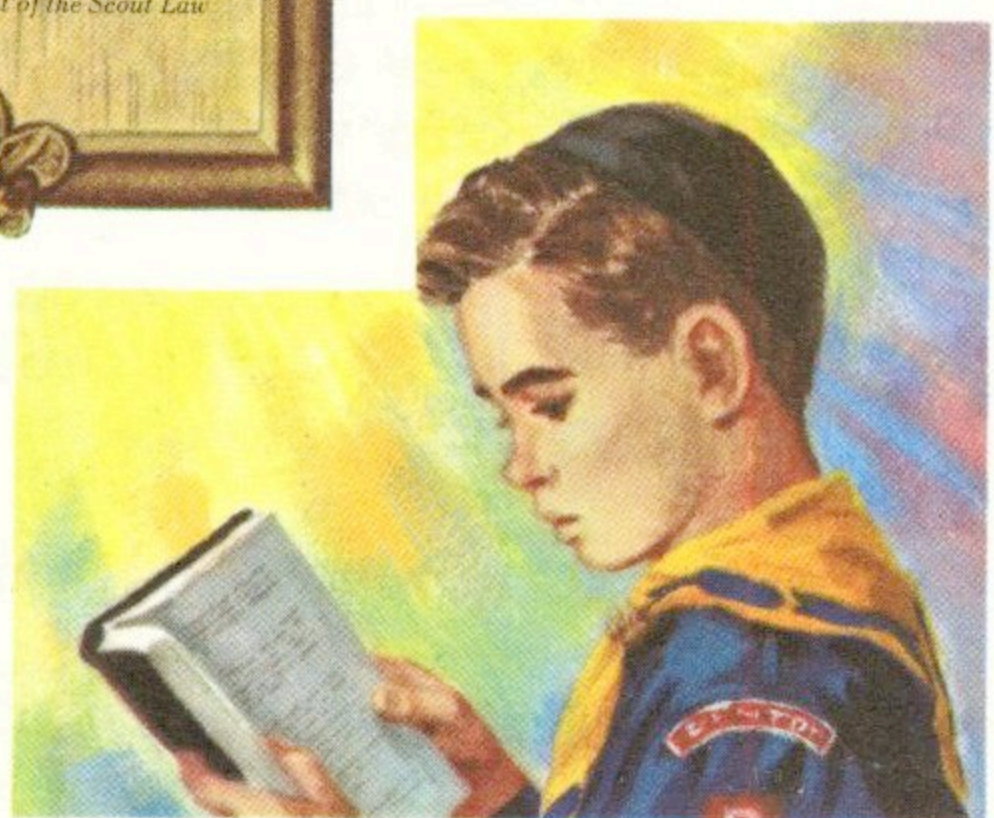
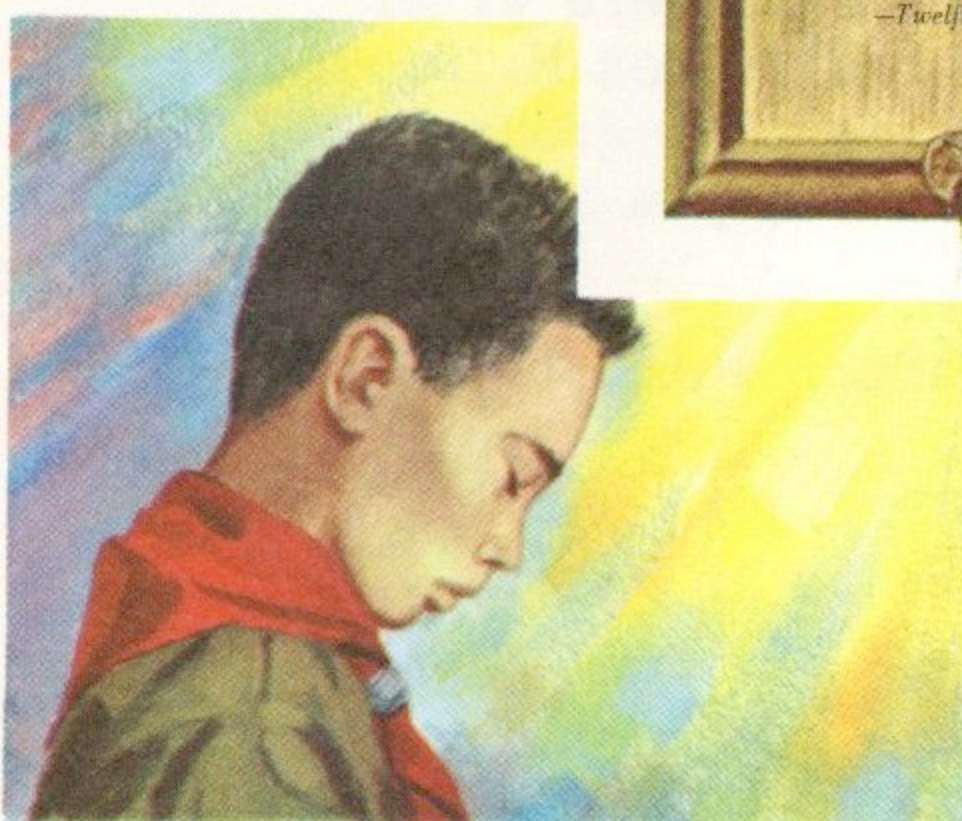
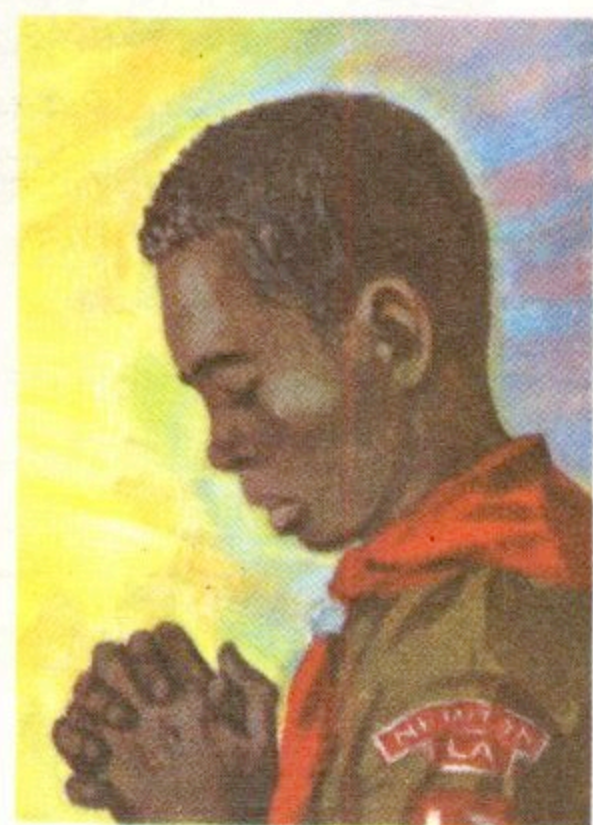
Replaced late years be American
BAPTIST Churches of the NIAGARA
FRONTIER



A
SCOUT
IS
EVERENT

reverent toward God.
He is faithful in his religious
duties and respects the con-
victions of others in matters
of custom and religion.

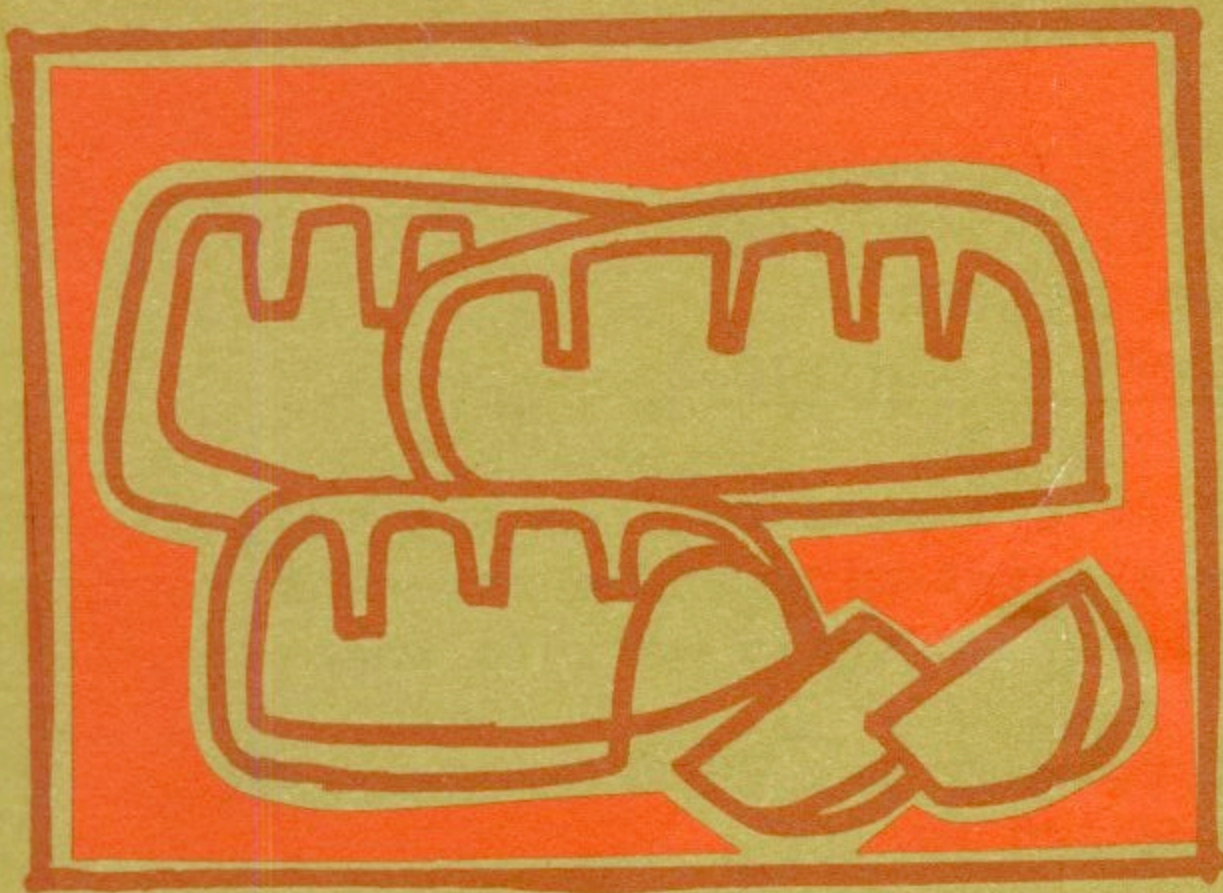
—Twelfth point of the Scout Law



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
West Avenue at W. Center Street
Medina, New York

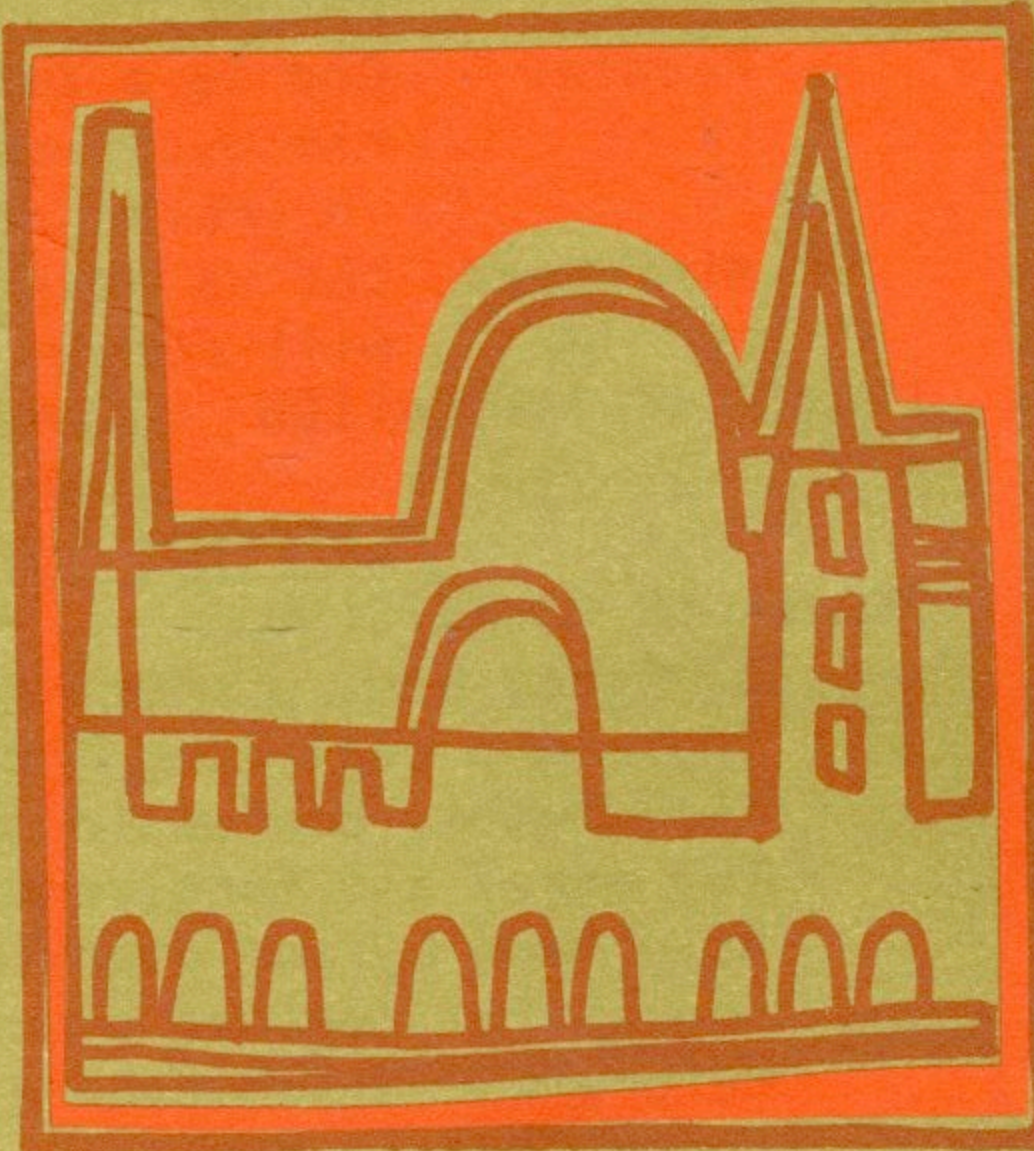
1966

Feb. 6, 1966



AND HIM
ONLY HIM
SHALL YOU
SERVE

AND
HIM
ONLY
SHALL
YOU SERVE



AND HIM
ONLY SHALL
YOU SERVE

1966

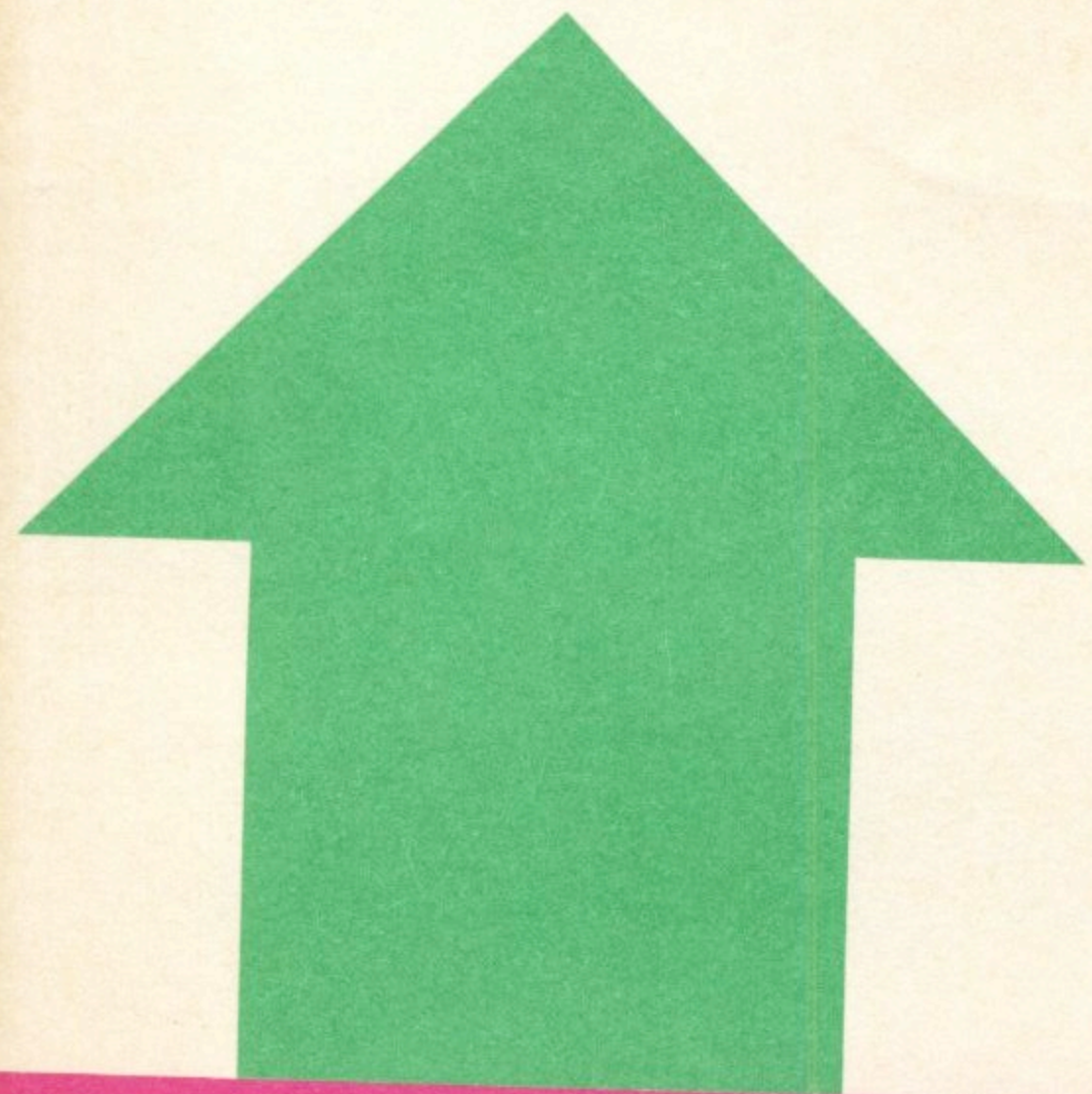
1966

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.



1966

affirm
the
faith



act responsibly

1975-1976

Oct. 10, 1965

for god sent
the son into
the world, not
to condemn the
world, but that
the world might
be saved through
him.

JOHN 3:17



Hilton Baptist Church
Hilton, New York

76 Area Students Make Erie Tech Honor List

Seventy-six area students have been named to the director's list at the Erie County Technical Institute in Buffalo. The list is comprised of those students who achieved an average grade of 90 to 100 per cent in their studies.

The study program and list follows:

Architectural Drawing: John Sokolofsky, Lockport.

Basic Engineering Sciences: Jon Apple, North Tonawanda.

Electrical Power: Albert Bulgreen Jr., North Tonawanda; Gordon Johnson, 8428 W. Riverside Drive; Gregory Nachreiner, North Tonawanda; Keirn Vincent, Newfane, and Ronald Young, Lockport.

Heating and Air Conditioning: Harlow Parsons, 531 Third St.; Theodore Borowski, North Tonawanda, and Spencer Pynn, North Tonawanda.

Industrial Chemistry: Oliver Paulus, Ransomville.

Industrial Instrumentation: Philip Lucas, North Tonawanda.

Machine Design: Edward Bakula, 124 63rd St.; Joseph Bruno, 2702½ Grand Ave., and Donald Victor, North Tonawanda.

Medical Office Work

Medical Office Practice: Ruth Clemenger, 3807 Walnut Ave.

Metallurgy: Carmin Corelli, North Tonawanda; Remigius Czekaj, Lockport, and Allan Klumpp, Lockport.

Production Planning: Herbert Stauffer, 8337 Laughlin Drive; Arthur Brauer, Gasport, and Joseph Gasper, Newfane.

Tool Design: Morgan Greenman, 4608 Patricia Drive; Harry Kennedy, 766 99th St.; Frederick Upston, 915 Buckley Ave.; Jerry Warnke, Niagara Falls Missile Site; Edson Bailey, Lockport; Cyril Chevers, North Tonawanda; John Farino, North Tonawanda; Ronald Galentine, North Tonawanda; Carl Hoffmeister, North Tonawanda; Donald Miller, North Tonawanda; Thaddeus Urbanik, North Tonawanda, and Joseph Zafuto, Newfane.

Electronics: Richard Calorosso, North Tonawanda; William Cowles Jr., North Tonawanda; Clifford Curley, Lockport; Raymond Festor, San-

born: James Keller, North Tonawanda; Kenneth Knight, North Tonawanda; Kurt Legait, North Tonawanda; John Lopacki, North Tonawanda; and William Pittenger, Lockport.

Special Courses

Special Courses: Paul Banks, 907 Pasadena Ave.; Ronald Beck, 198 56th St.; Norman Bock, 3807 Pine Ave.; William Conti, 603 38th St.; Edward Eames, 1621 Niagara Ave.; William Jekielek, 1501 Willow Ave.; Edward Mormel, 6511 Elsa Place; Carl Reisig, 1248 92nd St.; Norman Sitgraves, 76 Deuro Drive; David Chamberlain, Lockport; John Dickenson, Olcott; Peter Eikemeyer, Lockport; Roger Erck, Lockport; Kathleen Gallagher, Lockport; Parker Greenman, Lockport; Roger Gray, North Tonawanda; Earl Harrington, Olcott; Jimmie Harrod, Middleport; Ralph Janowsky, Lockport; Melvin Kramer, Sanborn; Robert Laese, Lockport; Thomas Lee, North Tonawanda; Donald Oakey, Sanborn; Richard Pulvino, Lockport; Edmund Quinones, Lockport; Thomas Scott, Lockport; Frank Spinner, Grand Island; and Peter Van Wagoner, Lockport.

Police Science: Frank Malone, North Tonawanda.

Atlas Steel: Fred Yano, Niagara Falls, Ont.

Carpenter Apprentice: Robert Mack, North Tonawanda.

Roofer Apprentice: James Baggos, Sanborn, and James Rickard, Lewiston.

CHURCH BOARDS AND OFFICERS 1977

MODERATOR

George Toner 488 - 75th St. 283-5215

CLERK

Hazel Baxter 2473 Whitney Ave. 297-7891

TREASURER

Joan Bowser 200 - 60th St. 283-9342

ASST. TREASURER

Margaret Payne 2677 Ridge Road-Rans. 791-3675

TRUSTEES

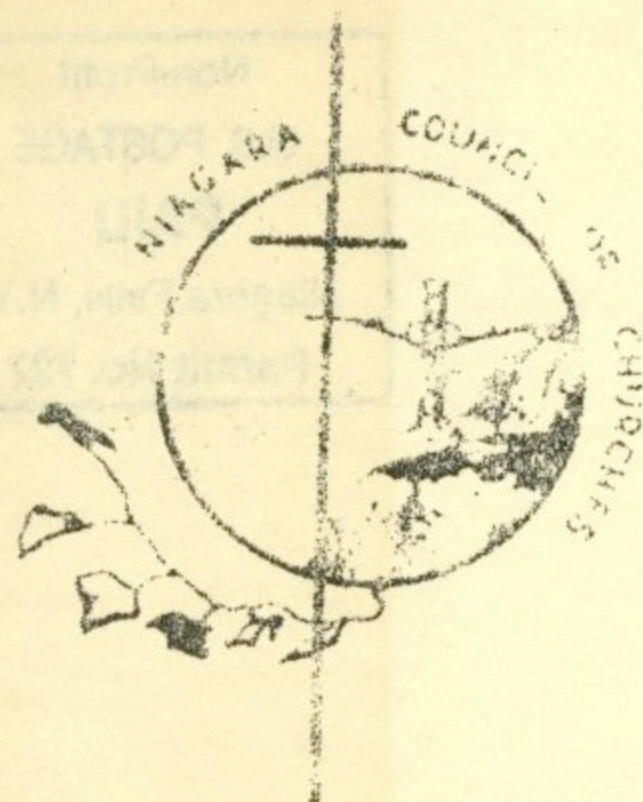
Dr. Percy Bash 781 VanRennselaer 282-3234
Harry Beckett 1536 Niagara Avenue 284-9438
C-Walter Bennett 2712 Pierce Avenue 297-7928
Kenneth Bowser 560 Chicora Drive-Lewis. 754-4147
Ronald Bowser 200 - 60th Street 283-9342
Bruce Dent 516 College Avenue 282-3469
Ward Knight 2478 Weston Avenue 282-2698
Florence Martin 325 S 7th Street 754-2209

DIACONATE

Andrew Baxter 2473 Whitney Avenue 297-7891
Ronald Beck 140 - 74th Street 283-5202
Ruthann Beck 140 - 74th Street 283-5202
Betty Bennett 2712 Pierce Avenue 297-7928
Doris Bennett 425 - 5th Street 284-9820
William Buckley 560 - 81st Street 283-4733
C-Ray Erway 518 - 5th Street 284-4659
Ann Fitzsimmons 1512 South Avenue 285-0234
James Fitzsimmons 1512 South Avenue 285-0234
Marion Hickey 727 - C - 93rd St. 283-9698
Jesse McGee 1879 Michigan Avenue 285-7910
Jewel McDonough 78 Expressway Village 297-0368
William McDonough 78 Expressway Village 297-0368
Paul McKenzie 1566 N. Colonial Drive 297-6717
Judith Miller 729 Main Street
Leona Misener 424 - 8th Street 284-4208
Mary Saul 2461 Weston Avenue 285-7180
Marjorie Scott 2661 Niagara Avenue 297-6365

Ruth
Clemenger

1977



NIAGARA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

WINDOW ON THE FRONTIER

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

May 19, 1980

Dear friends at the First Baptist Church, Niagara Falls.

A gallant little lady, MISS PHOEBE B. DOVESMITH, went to her heavenly reward on April 9, 1980. We of the Niagara Council of Churches wish to remember her because of her active part in the ecumenical life of the Niagara Frontier from its beginning. In the spring of 1952, she and other leaders met a number of times and worked to construct the framework of the Council and plan its proposed future activity. Phoebe Dovesmith served as the very first secretary of the Niagara Council of Churches. She helped to make the arrangements for the great mass meeting on September 30, 1952, when E. Stanley Jones came to speak on church unity. He declared, "the denominational emphasis in Christian faith has taken the church as far as it can go and the next great step is to gather these scattered, uncoordinated emphases into a living whole." Miss Phoebe Dovesmith, a strong Baptist laywoman, understood these words and continued reaching out with her ecumenical interest through the years. She contributed generous financial support - but more than that, she gave moral support to Council work until the end of her days. We have been enriched with a woman of such vision and love as part of our Council heritage.

Ruth Betty Shippee
For the Executive Board
The Niagara Council of Churches



Miss
Phoebe
Davis Smith

Church &
Pastoral
Secretary

Church Office



CHURCH HOUSE
4th STREET

1979



FAMILY OF THE YEAR — The Niagara Council of Churches declared the family of Andrew Baxter Jr. of 2473 Whitney Ave. "Family of the Year" at the organization's annual meeting Saturday at St. James Methodist Church. At left, Baxter displays the plaque to his wife Hazel, and sons, Tim, Andy, and Jeff. — Gazette Photo by L.C. Williams

1979

1979

THE NIAGARA

Entertain for Mrs. Dovesmith

Celebrate Eightieth Birthday of Falls Woman.

Mrs. Joseph Dovesmith, Sr., was the gracious guest of honor yesterday at an "At Home" given at her home, 2255 Niagara avenue, by her children, to observe her eightieth birthday. From 3 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon and from 8 to 10 o'clock in the evening the many friends of Mrs. Dovesmith dropped in to extend to her the best of birthday wishes. The house was filled with gift flowers.

In an afternoon gown of black velvet with a dainty corsage of white pom poms and pink rosebuds, Mrs. Dovesmith received her many guests and was assisted by her daughters, Miss Gertrude, Miss Phoebe and Dr. Edith Dovesmith, of this city; and Mrs. T. F. Dudley, of Mt. Tabor, N. J.; and her son, Mr. Joseph Dovesmith Jr., and Mrs. Dovesmith, of Saginaw, Mich., and her grandson, William Dovesmith, of Oswego, N. Y.

The tea table was artistically arranged with an imported lace edged cut work cloth centered with a low silver bowl of pom poms, Talisman roses and heather and silver holders with tall ivory tapers. Presiding at the tea table were Mrs. Frank Trigg, Miss Mary Ewart, Mrs. Walter Russell and Mrs. Charles Osborn. On a side table was a three-tier birthday cake with the tiny white candles arranged in the figures of 80.

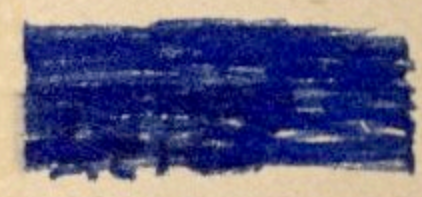
Mrs. Dovesmith, who was born in London, England, has lived in this city for 24 years and during that time has been an active member of the First Baptist church and all its work.



church
Leaders



Marjorie
Scott
Left.



Grace
Reakes
Center.



Mrs. Jan Babcock

George Toner

COURIER EXPRESS

BROTHERHOOD ANTHEM — Mrs. Jan Babcock, president of the Niagara Falls Council of Churches, and George Toner, trustee of the council, join in singing the National Anthem Monday morning at the opening of a panel presentation on societal and family changes, sponsored by the

Niagara Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The program was held as part of the observance of National Brotherhood Week. Following the program, a brotherhood luncheon was held in the Ramada Inn, given by the Niagara Falls Rotary Club.

POINSETTIAS THAT BEAUTIFY OUR CHANCEL TODAY HAVE BEEN PLACED AS MEMORIALS OF THE FOLLOWING:

In Memory of:

Mrs. Ethel Klein	by Daughters, Audrey Alessi and Betty Johnson
Bettina Gilbert	by Hazel Baxter
Mother & Grandmother	by Sandra and Charlie Ammons
Hazel Bloodgood	
Loved Ones	by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Payne
Father Benedict Wilson	
and Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. M.D. Perkins	by Ann Wilson
Husband Neal	by Carrie McFeaters
Parents	by Jessie Richardson
Loved Ones	by Dr. & Mrs. Percy W. Bash
Loved Ones	by George and Hildur Toner
Loved Ones	by The Baxter Family
Beloved Wife Helen	
and Son John	by David W. Brasington
Loved Ones	by The Lawrence Family
Loved Ones	by Marjorie B. Arthur
Loved Ones	by Mr. & Mrs. Harry C. Beckett
Husband and Mother	by Carolyn Pottle
Loved Ones	by John and Terri Palmer
Loved Ones	by Leo & Mary Dunham
Bettina Gilbert	by AdaBelle Nickerson
Mr. E. W. Martin	by Maribel, Nancy & David
Loved Ones	by The Culbreth Family
Loved Ones	by Donna Baker
Loved Ones	by The Ronald Bowser Family
Charles and Rubina Perry	by Robert and Evelyn Keller and Family
Rev. and Mrs. W. Judson	by Ruth P. Mahar and Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Pasko
Pasko	by Anna Borks
Loved Ones	by Anna Borks
Mabel Negus	by Jim and Nella Ripson
Loved Ones	by Florence Mott
Loved Ones	
Grandmother Helen	by Ron and Ruthann Beck and Family
Brasington and Father	by Thelma Porteous
Allen J. Arthur	by Thelma Porteous
Guildford Porteous	by Spicer Kenyon Family
Loved Ones	
Catherine Kenyon	

College of Education Graduates 13 From City

Thirteen Niagara Falls students were among candidates who received degrees Wednesday at the first mid-year commencement of the State University of New York College of Education at Buffalo.

A Ransomville student and a Youngstown student also received degrees at the exercises in the college auditorium.

Mary M. Canavan, 1333 Roselle Ave.

Carl G. Conway, 51 South 86th St.

Dr. Joseph Manch, Buffalo public school superintendent, was commencement speaker.

Those Getting Degrees

Niagara Falls students receiving bachelor of science degrees included:

Ronald E. Granieri, 807 16th St., industrial arts education.

Walter F. Zabretsky, 3040 East Falls St., industrial arts education.

Lynette Yvonne Rivers, 190 58th St., elementary education.

City students receiving master of science degrees in elementary education (Class of August 1960) were:

Mary Lucille Hoff, 928 Lafayette Ave. (cum laude).

Elizabeth Ann Jardin, 1860 South Ave.

Edith C. Jones, 10B 67th St.

Robert Leonard Kersch, 540 82nd St.

Gertrude Marshall Rae, 8226 Lindbergh Ave.

Laurence A. Stephens, 8330 Laughlin Drive.

Others Graduating

Receiving a master of science in art education was Joan C. Van Valkenburgh, 8305 Buffalo Ave.

Master of science degrees in elementary education went to these city students of the Class of January 1961:

Margaret C. Bowen, 8221 Pershing Ave.

Elizabeth Ann
Jardin

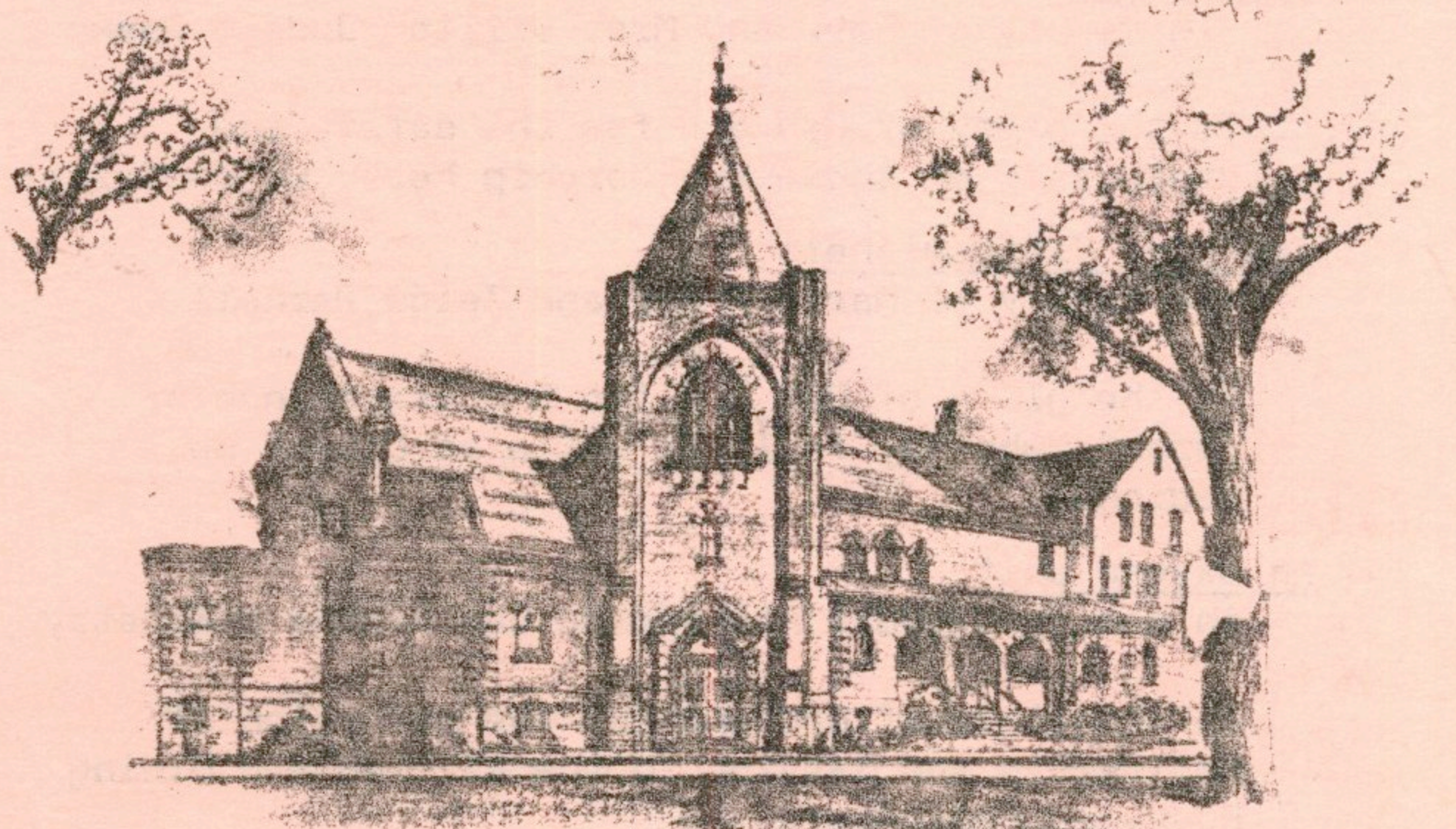


1970

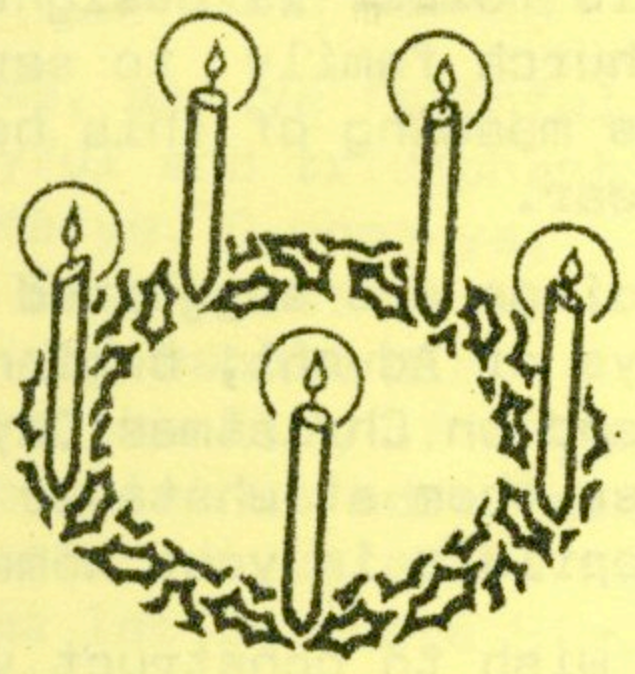
Baptist Women's Fellowship

A Service of
DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS

May 24, 1981



1981

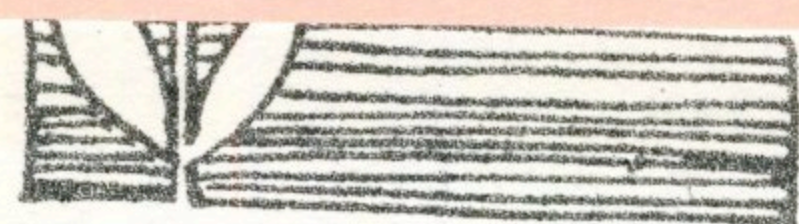


advent

ADVENT - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
IN OUR HOME

First Baptist Church
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

1980



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Fourth and Main Streets
Niagara Falls, New York

REV. DONALD L. LAWRENCE, PASTOR

May 24, 1981



Pastor Charles R. Osborn
 Died: February 11, 1982
 Age: 92 years

Rev. Charles Rufus Osborn
 Mrs.
 Dorothy Osborn

Charles Osborn
 Rev. Pierre Tanguet



Ken
Hewitt

John
Saul

Rev.
Edward
Gunther

John
Patruno

Dave
Einstein



Men's Bible Class Ken Cushing
brother of Mrs. Mabel Negus

Hildner and George TONER







Forrest Wilcox Mrs. Myron Weaver Paul Bash Howard Stowell
Rev H. Victor Kane Norina Leonard Bryant Ralph Beals





Bill Hurst
Dave Einstein

Annelle
Reysen

"Jackie"
Tompkins

John Patruno

Howard
Whitmire
Freddie Shipp



1942

1942

Contributed by Mrs. Edith Hall

WALKER—Lena in this city November 1, 1962, mother of Dr. I. M. Walker and Dr. O. F. Walker, city. Also surviving are 5 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Friends may call at The Gridley Funeral Home Inc., 750 Main Street after 12 noon Friday. Funeral announced later.

SWICK—In Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, October 26, 1962, Myrtle E. of 1624 Niagara Avenue. Sister of Reading Swick, Spokane Washington. Also survived by several cousins. Funeral service at the Chapel of Cornell & Daggett Inc. 1517 Main St., Tuesday, Oct. 30, 1962 at 1:30 p.m. The Rev. Edward Gunther officiating. Interment North Ridge cemetery. Friends may call at the Chapel Sunday and Monday 2 to 5 and 7 to 9.

A young Kenmore mother, whose autobiography of years spent in Nazi concentration camps is a best seller, will speak here April 22.

Gerda Weissmann Klein, author of "All But My Life," will appear under the auspices of the Berean Class of the First Baptist Church. She will speak at a dinner meeting at the church, Main and Fourth Streets.



GERDA WISEMAN KLEIN

Experiences in Nazi concentration camps and rescue by an American officer who later became her husband highlight the autobiography.

Mrs. Klein describes her experiences as a young girl whose indomitable spirit enabled her to cling to hope through the darkest hours of her people's history. Her will to live enabled her to survive a 1,000-mile winter march of 4,000 slave girls across Germany, ending in a Czech village with fewer than 200 survivors.

In spite of these incredible experiences and the complete destruction of the world she knew and loved, Mrs. Klein was able to survive and build a new life.

The author will tell of these experiences and compare them with the life she now lives in Kenmore with her husband and three children.

The dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Reservations may be made with Mrs. Harry Mott, 7819 Edison Ave.

IN MEMORY OF

Ada Clark

Born, March 20, 1882

Died, October 31, 1969

Funeral Services From
Cobler's Funeral Home
640 Park Place, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Monday, November 3, 1969

Two o'clock

Officiating Clergyman
Rev. Pierre Tangent

Final Resting Place
Oakwood Cemetery



Contributed by Mrs. Edith Hall

December 1952
December 1952

Bereans

CLARA HODICK

Clara Hodick, 76, of 8022 Buffalo Ave., died at home Thursday (June 10, 1971) after a long illness.

Born in Shamokin, Pa., she lived in this city for 31 years.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. James K. Storey of this city, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Lane Funeral Home Monday at 11 a.m., with the Rev. Pierre Tangent of First Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home today from 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

HODICK—June 10, 1971, Clara, Hodick of 8022 Buffalo Ave. Mother of Mrs. James K. Storey, this city. She is also survived by 4 grandchildren. Funeral services will be held from the Lane Funeral Home Inc., 8022 Buffalo Ave., Monday, June 14, 1971 at 11 a.m. The Rev. Pierre Tangent officiating. Interment in Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call Saturday 7-9 p.m. and Sunday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

PERRY—In Memorial Hospital, June 18, 1965, Rubina Perry, age 73 of 530 12th St. Mother of Mrs. Robert (Evelyn) Keller and Mrs. Margaret Davis and seven grandchildren, all of this city. Also survived by 3 sisters, Mrs. Evelyn Stephens, Miss Eloise Jessup, Mrs. Lerina Thomas, all of this city, and one brother Wesley Jessup of Brownsville, Texas. Funeral services Monday 11 a.m. from Otto Redanz Funeral Home Inc., Michigan and 10th St. Rev. Edward Gunther officiating. Interment in Oakwood Cemetery. Family will be present 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Donations may be made to the Memorial Fund of the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Ames Dies at 85

Mrs. Hattie Ames, 85, a former resident of 7941 First Ave., Town of Niagara, died Sunday (Nov. 30, 1969) in Arnot-Ogden Hospital in Elmira.

Mrs. Ames was visiting in Elmira when she was stricken ill last August. She had been in the hospital since then.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Niagara Falls.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning in Elmira. Burial will be in Elmira.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Evan Andrews in Elmira.





Douglas Adams Rev. Pierre Tangent

Area Baptists Set Votes on Merger

American Baptist Convention congregations in Erie and Niagara Counties will have one federation instead of two if they approve this at their annual meetings in February.

Its name would be American Baptist Churches of the Niagara Frontier.

Representatives of the 35 congregations in Erie County will vote on it Feb. 12 in East Aurora Church at the meeting of Buffalo Baptist Assn. The board has drawn up a definite plan and recommends a "yes" vote.

To Weigh Plan

Niagara Assn., which has 21 churches, will consider it at the annual meeting Feb. 27 in Sanborn Church. Its ministers have approved the general idea of one federation.

If both associations approve, the new organization will come into being, its officers elected and its bylaws approved at a special meeting on April 30 at a place to be decided.

Each Baptist congregation governs itself, but congregations do many things together through regional associations, state conventions and a national convention which meet regularly and have their own agencies, boards and committees.

Some black congregations belong to both the mostly white American Baptist Convention and the black National Baptist Convention.

In Western New York, the Rev. Edward Gunther, a former Niagara Falls pastor now serving as executive minister of the churches in Erie County, also serves as a coordinating executive for the churches in Ni-

agara, Genesee, Chautauqua, Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties.

Ministers of these Western New York churches will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 1 in First Shiloh Church in Buffalo.

To Hear Dr. Mitchell

Dr. Henry Mitchell, professor of black studies at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, will lead them in a session on understanding the black church, its life and its ways of worship.

Erie County American Baptists will open their annual meeting at 7:45 p.m. Feb. 11 and hear the Rev. J. Richard Hawley, evangelism director for Pennsylvania Baptist Convention.

He also will speak the next morning about the urgency of spreading the word about Jesus and the Christian religion. Small groups will then talk over six major aspects of evangelism as it affects the congregation.

1972



Rev. Pierre Tangent

1978



Ray Erway

April 1978

Douglas Adams
 Marjorie Adams
 (Mother & Son)



1978
 Adabelle
 Nickerson

Christian Education
 Week 1978

Ruth Ann
 Beck

George
 TONER





Grad. Recognition Sem. June '75
 Mr. James Ruiz (N.C.C.) Douglas Adams (BS. 11. of Butte)
 Gary Bowser, L.P. High; Tim Baxter & Kerio Keller, NEWS, Grinnell

1975



1968-69

James
Ruiz

KEVIN
MANNING

GERRY
BOWSER

TERRY
MANNING

CHAMPS
BILL
STEVENS



Joe Patruno

Ruth



Rev. Pierre Tanguet

Kerrie Keller

Debbie Gromniak

Timothy Baxter

Gary Bowser

James Ruiz

Joan Bowser

Ronald
Raymond Bowser Amy

Tanet



Ray Targent

Ray McLee

Brian Mc Lee

1942
Mr & Mrs. Robert Kenyon

Rev. H. Victor Kane

Mrs. H.V., Marjorie, Kane



Baptist Women Observe Mission Anniversary

1941

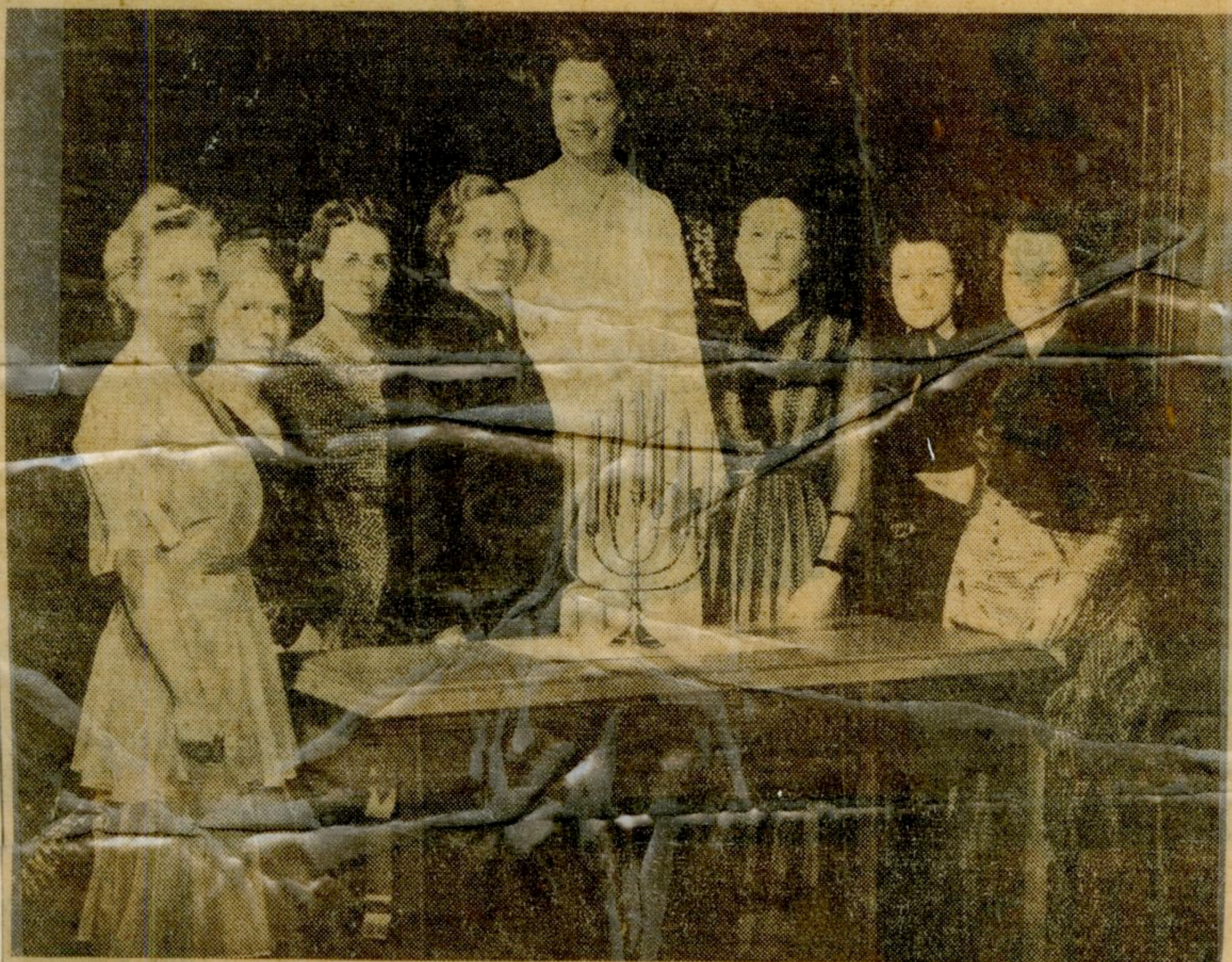


Photo by Roy G. Crogan, Gazette Staff Photographer

The seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Foreign Missionary society was observed yesterday afternoon in the First Baptist church here. Participants in the anniversary program included those pictured above from left to right. They are: Mrs. William A.

Evans; Mrs. Forrest E. Wilcox; Mrs. Huber C. Kercheval, who was re-elected president of the group; Mrs. Walter B. Russell; Mrs. Percy W. Bash; Mrs. Leo Studebaker; Miss Marjorie Abendschein and Mrs. Ralph Beals.

Birth of Society Marked by Women

Mrs. Hubert Kercheval Re-elected Head of Baptist Group.

A large group of women met at the First Baptist church yesterday afternoon to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Foreign Missionary society. At the business meeting the present officers were re-elected for the coming year, as follows: Mrs. Hubert Kercheval, president; Mrs. Harrop Freeman, first vice president; Mrs. Clyde Jugle, second vice president; Mrs. Charles Rouch, recording secretary; Mrs. Edwin Allen, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Earl Burt, treasurer.

The seventh candle in the Birthday Candelabrum was lighted by her two daughters in memory of Mrs. Edward Abendschein, Sr., who was for many years an active member of the society.

At 3 p.m., the local women joined women of seven other countries in a beautiful antiphonal service of dedication, "A New Lease on Life," written especially for the occasion. Each decade from 1871 to 1941 was represented by a woman in the costume of the period, who reviewed briefly the growth of missions in that decade, with responses read and sung by the audience. Mrs. E. Duane Shippy sang the offertory solo and a trio composed of Mrs. Kercheval, Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Shippy sang "Lift Thine Eyes," from Elijah. Both were accompanied by Mrs. Harold Seiner at the organ.

Blue decorations were used effectively on the tea table, which was centered by a birthday cake. Mrs. Walter Russell, in black bengaline of the period of 1901, and Mrs. Forrest Wilcox, in black lace of 1921, poured.

1936

First Baptist Church

MAIN AT FOURTH

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

Charles Rufus Osborn, Minister

600 Fourth Street

Telephone 4666

Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Wiatt, Missionaries
Insien, Seminary Hill, Burma



BEREAN CLASS
Annual Luncheon
Salvation Army
May 24, 1977
12:00 P.M.

Speaker---Major Williams

MENU

Salvation Army Delight

Faith

Love

Charity

PROGRAM

Doxology

Dinner

Welcome---Marilyn McGee

Recognition of Guests

Poem - Mabel N.
Annual Reports

Installation of Officers---

Virginia Tangent

Closing Hymn "Blest be the Tie"

OFFICERS

1977-1978
new

President	Carrie McFeaters
Vice President	Marilyn McGee
Secretary	Elizabeth Hayes
Treasurer	Bessie Hayes
Teacher	Hildur Toner

B. HAYES

Protestant Group Will Hear Priest

A Roman Catholic priest will address a special meeting of Protestant representatives at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in First Baptist Church.

The event will mark the public recognition of the Vatican Ecumenical Council by part of the Protestant community in Niagara Falls. The council convenes Thursday.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Robert Sweeny, formerly of St. Mary's of the Cataract Church and now of St. Joseph's Old Cathedral in Buffalo. His topic: "The Ecumenical Council—Its Purpose and Meaning."

Rev. Edward Gunther, pastor of First Baptist, will moderate the public meeting. The church is at Main and Fourth Streets.

"The Protestant community," said the Rev. Mr. Gunther, "is vitally interested in the Vatican Council because it is concerned with bridging the great chasm within Christendom. In a world which has become one through science and technology, the church must be united in its purpose and mission."

"Although organic union between the two great segments of Christendom may not be imminent, nevertheless we must dispel the fears and suspicions which do exist through opportunities for conversations, such as this meeting."

"Therefore, I join with the diaconate of this church in extending a sincere invitation to Protestants and Catholics to this meeting."



